FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 OCTOBER 1983

Lebanon

Geneva Conference — On the eve of the National Dialogue Conference scheduled to open in Geneva on 31 October, Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens, in a statement reported by the Voice of Lebanon radio, responded to reports th the May 1983 Lebanese-Israeli agreement would be a major topic of discussion by stating that Israel considers any attempt to abrogate or change it "detrimental" to the security of both Israel and Lebanon. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated that if the agreement is canceled Israel will not be committed to withdraw from Lebanon, according to Jerusalem radio.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim told a news conference in Bern that he expects the agreement to be raised at the conference, adding that "the only way" is to consider the agreement frozen and to discuss means of withdrawal from Lebanon with Syria, Beirut radio reported. Salim said that President Amin al-Jumayyil, who is to chair the conference, "is open to all reforms and proposals that might be presented."

Meanwhile, portions of the working paper of the National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement were leaked in Bern, Beirut radio stated, adding that, besides calling for an end to "political sectarianism" and direct popular elections for the presidency, the Front will demand the cancellation of the Lebanon-Israel agreement. The deputy speaker of the Lebanese parliament, in a statement to KUNA, asserted that the agreement should be the focus of the conference because it was "the immediate reason" for the most recent outbreak of fighting in Lebanon.

Syrian diplomatic circles in Damascus cited by Radio Monte Carlo said that if the agreement were canceled, the "horror" of the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon would be revealed and Israel would be unable to continue control. The radio's sources also reaffirmed that the Syrian Government has expressed its commitment to withdraw from Lebanon as soon as Israeli forces are withdrawn and "provided that Israel does not realize any gains." In a cable to the conferees reported by Beirut radio, the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) maintained that the conference should "primarily" tackle the "liberation issue" and that any dialogue that disregards this issue or fails to define "serious and practical" steps to end the occupation of southern Lebanon would fulfill the plot aimed at "liquidating Lebanon."

In an interview with Swiss television quoted by Radio Monte Carlo, PSP leader Walid Junblatt predicted that the Phalange Party would offer no concessions at the conference. Claiming that President al-Jumayyil's government had been saved by "U.S. intervention," Junblatt stated that if he had to choose between a government supported by the United States and "a free Lebanon," he would "remain Syria's man."

Meanwhile, Saudi mediator Prince Bandar ibn Sultan 'Abd al-'Aziz told the French newspaper *Le Monde* that from all his talks with the parties to the conflict he concludes that "it will be easy to reach an agreement," AFP reported, because Al-Jumayyil will state that everything is negotiable and the president's adversaries will not question the legitimacy of the head of state, the Lebanese Constitution, or the national pact that divides governmental posts among the various Lebanese factions. The prince stated that only small amendments to secure a better balance of power among the factions will be discussed.

Soviet and U.S. officials have arrived in Geneva, the Voice of Lebanon reported, adding that it has information pointing to U.S.-Soviet agreement to ensure a successful conference. Meanwhile, Israel has sent a representative to Geneva to follow the conference, according to IDF Radio, while Saudi Arabia has sent Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud and its ambassador to Lebanon as observers, SPA stated. Syria will be represented by Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Damascus radio said, while various Beirut radio reports noted that "many Lebanese personalities" are in Geneva to attend.

Aftermath of Bombings — Justice Minister Roger Shaykhani has announced that "a number" of people are being held in connection with the investigations into the bombings of the U.S. Marine and French contingent headquarters, Beirut radio reported. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said Lebanese authorities have given the United States the names of 11 persons proved to be involved in the bombings and quoted Lebanese security sources as stating that before the bombings the drivers of both trucks met with Iranian Ad-Da'wah Party leader Shaykh Fadlallah, a Shi'ite who has broken away from the Amal Movement. The decision to bomb the U.S. and French contingents took place at a secret meeting in Damascus between President al-Asad and the Iranian deputy foreign minister, after which Al-Asad instructed Islamic Amal Movement leader Husayn al-Musawi to carry out the attacks, the French magazine *Le Nouvel Observateur* reported according to Radio Free Lebanon. Voice of Lebanon said the attackers were Iranian, Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian, adding that the Palestinian is the chief of the PFLP Operations Department.

Al-Jumayyil Arab Tour — President al-Jumayyil will visit Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Morocco for consultations immediately after the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva, AFP reported citing an "authoritative" Lebanese source.

Italian Contingent — The mission of the Italian contingent will remain unchanged, the Italian defense minister confirmed at a press conference in Lebanon reported by Beirut radio.

Security Situation — Lebanese Army positions in the Suq al-Gharb area came under artillery fire over the weekend, according to Beirut radio. Although Jerusalem radio reported that the PSP has permitted around 1,000 Christian civilians to leave the besieged town of Dayr al-Qamar, Voice of Lebanon said circles close to Walid Junblatt have disclosed that the release will not take place until next week.

In another development, an Armenian terrorist was arrested after hurling hand grenades at the Turkish Embassy in Beirut, according to Beirut radio.

Syria

The Syrian Armed Forces launched long-range surface-to-surface missiles which hit their targets with "great accuracy" during live-ammunition military maneuvers reviewed by Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas, Damascus television reported on 29 October. At the end of the exercise, Talas stressed that the Syrian Army has been able to absorb "the sophisticated weapons" and called on Syrian soldiers to continue preparing for the "coming fateful battle." Syria and the Soviet Union have agreed that the SS-21 missiles can be used only in self-defense and the use of the missiles requires the prior approval of Soviet experts in Syria, according to diplomatic sources cited by the London weekly *Al-Majallah*.

Meanwhile, Damascus radio and Syrian papers cited by SANA expressed concern that the United States is planning to expand its military presence in Lebanon and strike at Syria. A radio report from Washington noted the possibility of U.S. retaliation for the Beirut explosions, either through assassination attempts against "elements" of the organizations held responsible or by airstrikes against bases belonging to these organizations in Ba'labakk.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat sent an urgent appeal to CPSU General Secretary Yuriy Andropov to use Soviet influence to save northern Lebanon from the danger of warfare in light of Syrian concentrations aimed at the Palestinian camps there, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Meanwhile, 'Arafat stated that he is ready to talk with Syria, North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio stated, reporting on an inspection tour 'Arafat made of PLO positions in northern Lebanon.

Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf criticized Syria's "dangerous" practices toward the PLO, according to Algiers Voice of Palestine radio. Khalaf, speaking in Algeria, also cited the Libyan "onslaught" against the Palestinian revolution, asserting that the Libyans had threatened to stop oil shipments to the PDRY if the Yemenis remain committed to the Palestinian revolution.

The chiefs of staff of the Palestine Liberation Army held an emergency meeting in Tunis, Baghdad Voice of PLO reported, at which they decided to reaffirm support for and commitment to the PLO under Yasir 'Arafat and to condemn Tariq al-Khadra's statement attacking 'Arafat's leadership as unrepresentative of "responsible Palestinians." Similarly, a statement by the Central Committee of the Arab Liberation Front declared that "conspiracies" backed by Syria and Libya against the PLO Command only diminish the Palestinians' chances of achieving their legitimate rights and warned PFLP-General Command leader Ahmad Jibril against acting against the Palestinian people's interests, according to North Lebanon Voice of Palestine.

PLO deputy military commander Khalil Al-Wazir told the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Qabas* that all attempts by Arab and international parties to ease relations between Syria and the PLO have failed and that the road to reconciliation is blocked. On northern Lebanon, Al-Wazir contended that the military situation is good despite difficulties in logistics and supply, adding that over 1,500 fighters who were forced to withdraw from Lebanon following the Israeli invasion have returned and that some are on their way to join the Fatah forces in Tripoli.

A Palestinian spokesman in Tripoli cited by North Lebanon Voice of Palestine revealed that, in preparation for the attacks to be launched against Tripoli and the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps, Syria has established an operations room which is being organized by the commander of Syrian forces in the region; the head of Syrian intelligence in Lebanon; the commander of the Syrian-sponsored As-Sa'iqah forces; the PFLP-General Command; Fatah dissident Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha, also known as Abu Musa; and Palestine Liberation Army-Hittin Forces Colonel Tariq al-Khadra.

Iran-Iraq War

Summarizing Iran's gains in its most recent offensive in the northern sector, an Iranian commander told IRNA that the operation achieved all its objectives in 3 days, bringing many towns and villages in Iraq into firing range, suppressing "counter-revolutionary elements" and cutting their supply lines in northwestern Iran, and capturing heights commanding Panjwin and other strategic heights. In another report, IRNA disclosed that another Iraqi aircraft was shot down north of Marivan on 29 October. Iraqi military communiques broadcast by Baghdad and Voice of the Masses radios reported that some 5,000 Iranians were killed and many others wounded 25-30 October in the northern sector.

Israel

Former IDF Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan has formed a new political movement called TZOMET, the Movement for Renewed Zionism, Jerusalem television reported. In an interview with Jerusalem radio, Eytan stated that the new movement will not join any existing party, as he opposes such coalitions, though he sees an ideological affinity with the Tehiya movement.

In another development, Israel is "reconsidering" its objection to the U.S. plan to form a Jordanian rapid deployment force but will probably request compensation if such a force is formed, such as guarantees that the force will not operate against the IDF, that the U.S. freeze on support for development of the new Lavi aircraft will thaw, and that emergency depots for the 6th Fleet will be built in Israel, Jerusalem radio revealed.

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DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 211 *31 October 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Al-Qadhdhafi Expels PLO Officials From Libya *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... A 1
Closure of Office Criticized *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... A 1
N. Lebanon Fighting, Libyan Expulsions Reported *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 1
Situation in North Lebanon 'Deteriorating' *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... A 1
'Violent' Shelling Reported Near Camps *[North Lebanon VOP]* ..... A 2
Syrian-Backed Dissidents Shell Tripoli Camp *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... A 2
Syrian Army Praised for Not Attacking Fatah *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... A 2
Fatah's Khalil al-Wazir on Lebanon Situation *[AL-QABAS 28 Oct]* ..... A 2
Fatah Awaits Syrian, Dissident Reply on Discord *[AD-DUSTUR 31 Oct]* ..... A 3
AL-FAJR Criticizes Syrian 'Plot' To Liquidate PLO *[28 Oct]* ..... A 3
'Arafat Inspects Positions, Discusses Dissension *[North Lebanon VOP]* ..... A 3
As-Sa'iqah North Command Issues Statement *[North Lebanon VOP]* ..... A 4
Confrontation, Clashes With Syrians Rejected *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... A 4
PNC Reconciliation Committee Reportedly Meets *[AD-DUSTUR 31 Oct]* ..... A 5
Khalaf Visits Palestinian Forces in Tebessa *[Algiers VOP]* ..... A 5
Meet Messaadia *[Algiers VOP]* ..... A 6
Reaction to Reagan Statement on PLO Noted *[North Lebanon VOP]* ..... A 6
Reagan Policy Blamed for Beirut Incident *[ASH-SHA'B 25 Oct]* ..... A 6
Baghdad VOP Cites Romberg on Retaliatory Action ..... A 6
Joint Forces Attack Israelis in S. Lebanon *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... A 6

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

YAR-PDRY Border Discussions Continue in Kuwait ..... C 1
Officials Visit Kuwait Amir ..... C 1
Agreement Based on 1967 Accord ..... C 1
Border Committee Session Ends ..... C 1

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives U.S. Defense Official Armitage ..... C 2
Armitage Meets Heir Apparent ..... C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Minister, Envoy Leave for Geneva Conference ..... C 2
Arrive in Geneva ..... C 2
Mas'ud Meets Syria's Khaddam ..... C 2
Prince Bandar Optimistic *[AFP]* ..... C 3

UAE

President Determined To Reconcile Algeria, Morocco ..... C 3
AL-ITTIHAD: Israel Responsible for Beirut Bombs ..... C 3
Delegation to Oman-PDRY Meeting Leaves for Kuwait ..... C 4

PDRY

President Discusses Border Meetings, Oil ..... C 4

EGYPT

Ghali Returns to Cairo From Beirut 28 Oct ..... D 1
Mubarak Receives Al-Jumayyil Message 29 Oct ..... D 1
'Ali Hopes for Success of Lebanese Conference ..... D 1
Mubarak Convokes Consultative, Legislative Bodies ..... D 1
Consultative Council Members Named ..... D 1

IRAQ

General Command Issues Communiques 1,262-1,264 ..... E 1
Communique No 1,262 ..... E 1
Communique No 1,263 ..... E 1
Communique No 1,264 ..... E 1
Commander Says Iran Fails To Reach Objectives ..... E 2
RCC Vice Chairman Flays Iran's 'Aggression' ..... E 2
Envoy Returns From San'a', Makes Statement ..... E 2
Tariq 'Aziz Confers With Japanese Official ..... E 2
Norwegian Commerce Minister Arrives on Visit ..... E 3
Received by 'Ali ..... E 3
Vice President Opens European-Arab Symposium ..... E 3

JORDAN

AR-RA'Y Reacts to Reagan's Peace Statement ..... F 1
King Husayn, Badran Discuss Regional Developments ..... F 1
Circulation of Egyptian Newspapers Allowed *[Rabat L'OPINION 14 Oct]* ..... F 1
Papers Call for Egypt's Return to Arab Ranks ..... F 1
AR-RA'Y Editorial ..... F 1
JORDAN TIMES Editorial *[31 Oct]* ..... F 2
Injured Envoy to India Returns Home 28 Oct ..... F 2
Arab League's Klibi To Visit Jordan, Syria, Iraq *[AR-RA'Y 31 Oct]* ..... F 2
British State Minister To Visit Shortly *[AR-RA'Y 31 Oct]* ..... F 2

LEBANON

President, Others in Switzerland for Conference ..... G 1
Al-Jumayyil Leaves for Bern ..... G 1
Al-Jumayyil, Aubert Hold Talks ..... G 1
Joint News Conference Held ..... G 1
Salim News Conference ..... G 3
Further Report ..... G 3
Salim Answers Reporters Questions ..... G 3
High-Ranking Soviet Arrives ..... G 4
Israel's Kimche in Geneva ..... G 4
Arens Issues Warning ..... G 4
Karami, Junblatt Arrive in Geneva ..... G 4
Franjiyah, Junblatt Interviewed ..... G 5
Junblatt 'Pessimistic' on Dialogue *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... G 5
PSP Cables Conferees on 'Liberation' of Homeland ..... G 5
Salvation Front's Working Paper 'Leaked' ..... G 5
Junblatt, Arslan To Set Up 'Alayh Administration ..... G 6
KUNA: Geneva Causes Al-Jumayyil To Delay Arab Tour ..... G 6
President Speaks to Al-Wazzan Before Departure ..... G 6
Dialogue Delegates Make Statements Before Departure ..... G 6
Pierre al-Jumayyil on Guarantee ..... G 6

Sa'ib Salam 'Openminded' ..... G 6
Presidential Delegation Members Named ..... G 7
Syria's Khaddam Reportedly To Attend Talks ..... G 7
Saudi Minister To Attend Dialogue 3 November ..... G 7
17 May Agreement Seen As Most Difficult Issue ..... G 7
RFL on Syrian, Saudi Stand on National Dialogue ..... G 7
Egypt's Ghali Conveys Message, Makes Statements ..... G 8
Ghali Expresses Hope ..... G 8
VOL on Identity of Beirut Blast Perpetrators ..... G 8
Iranian Ad-Da'wah Party Head Linked to Bombings *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 9
French Magazine Says Al-Asad Behind Explosions *[LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR]* ..... G 9
AFP: Increasing Enlistment in Amal Reported ..... G 9
Army in Suq al-Gharb Under Fire 31 October ..... G 9
Spadolini Holds News Conference in Beirut ..... G 9
Release of 1,000 at Dayr al-Qamar Postponed ..... G 10

SYRIA

SS-21 Missiles To Be Used Only in Self-Defense *[London AL-MAJALLAH 29 Oct-4 Nov]* ..... H 1
Missiles Launched in Training Exercise ..... H 1
Lebanese Leaders' Activities in Damascus Reported *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... H 1
Foreign Minister Departs For Geneva 30 Oct ..... H 1
Comment on Lebanese National Dialogue in Geneva ..... H 2
AL-BA'TH Views Dialogue ..... H 2
TISHRIN on Foiling Dialogue ..... H 2
AL-BA'TH Urges Canceling Accord ..... H 2
TISHRIN Advises Al-Jumayyil ..... H 3
Reaction to Reagan's Comments on Lebanon ..... H 3
Damascus on Reagan's Threats ..... H 3
'Twisted Truth' About Syria ..... H 4
Predictions of Retaliatory Actions Noted ..... H 4
Reagan's Changes of Policy Noted ..... H 5
TISHRIN Denounces U.S. Threats ..... H 6
AL-BA'TH Warns Against U.S. Action ..... H 6

ISRAEL

Arens Affirms Need To Stay in S. Lebanon ..... I 1
Warning to Lebanon ..... I 1
Shamir on Lebanon Accord ..... I 1
Cabinet Meeting Discusses Various Issues ..... I 2
No Stand on Grenada ..... I 2
Cabinet Secretary's Statement ..... I 2
Meridor Blasts Syria ..... I 2
'Government Source' Threatens Lebanon ..... I 2
Further on Cabinet Meeting ..... I 3
Voice of Lebanon Reports Lubrani in Geneva ..... I 3
Defense Ministry Denial ..... I 3
Lebanon Negotiator in Geneva ..... I 3
Opposition to Jordanian Force Reconsidered ..... I 3
Talks With U.S. Delegation This Week Previewed *[DAVAR 30 Oct]* ..... I 4
Canadian Foreign Secretary Meets Herzog ..... I 4
Meeting With Peres *[DAVAR 30 Oct]* ..... I 4
Shi'ite Leaders Retract Statements About Killings *['AL HAMISHMAR 30 Oct]* ..... I 5
IDF Takes Measures Against Attacks in Lebanon ..... I 5
Christians in Besieged Lebanese Town Evacuated ..... I 5
Talks With Egypt Aimed at Renewing Dialogue ..... I 5
Alignment Proposes Dissolution of Knesset ..... I 6
Former Chief of Staff Founds New Party ..... I 6
Eytan Denies Party Affiliation ..... I 6
IDF Officer Opposes Settlement in Hebron ..... I 6

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Messaadia Receives Soviet Cosmonaut Nikolayev ..... Q 1
PLO, Liberation Movements Condemn Grenada Invasion ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Message on Grenada to Al-Jumayyil *[Beirut AS-SAFIR 28 Oct]* ..... Q 1
PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives in Tripoli ..... Q 1
Received by Jallud ..... Q 1
Armed Forces Chief Visits Eastern Europe ..... Q 1
Received by CSSR President ..... Q 1
Visits Military Aircraft Factory ..... Q 2
Arrives in Belgrade ..... Q 2
Cooperation Discussed With Bulgarian Minister ..... Q 2
French Court Releases Terrorist Suspect ..... Q 2
JANA Interviews Sa'id Rashid ..... Q 2
Chad's Kamouge Says People Reject Habre ..... Q 3

SUDAN

Numayri Inspects Air Defense Forces 29 Oct ..... Q 3
Returns From Defense Inspection ..... Q 3

TUNISIA

Meets Chedli Klibi ..... Q 3
Discusses World Situation ..... Q 3
Meets French Community ..... Q 4
Visits Chamber of Deputies ..... Q 4
Comments on Lebanon *[Paris]* ..... Q 5
Speaks at Banquet ..... Q 5
Holds Press Conference ..... Q 5
On Sale of Etendards *[Paris]* ..... Q 6
Ends Visit ..... Q 6

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Sends Condolences to Cuban President ..... R 1

KENYA

Njonjo Commission Adjourns Until 22 November ..... R 1

SOMALIA

DFSS Statement Condemns U.S. Action in Grenada *[Radio Halgan]* ..... R 1
SALF Chief Receives Visiting ELP-PLF Leader *[Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front]* ..... R 1
Further on ELP-PLF Visit *[Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front]* ..... R 1

TANZANIA

SADCC Conference Opens in Arusha 26 October *[Maseru]* ..... R 2

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Minister Affirms Government Control Over South *[SUNA]* ..... S 1
OLTIF Claims Responsibility for Ndjamena Attacks ..... S 1
'Reliable' Source Says Pilot Defects to GUNT ..... S 1
Bardai on Defection ..... S 1

CONGO

PCF's Marchais Visit Ends; Communique Reported ..... S 2

GABON

Iranian Official Arrives With Message for Bongo *[IRNA]* ..... S 2
Bongo Receives Message From CAR's Kolingba ..... S 2

WEST AFRICA

BENIN

Libyan Official Received by Kerekou, Comments ..... T 1
PCF Secretary General Marchais Arrives 27 Oct ..... T 1

GHANA

French Delegation To Discuss Development Aid ..... T 1
TUC Condemns U.S. 'Invasion' of Grenada ..... T 1
Papers Denounce U.S. Actions in Grenada ..... T 2

LIBERIA

Revised Constitution Documents Formally Presented ..... T 2

NIGERIA

Shagari Receives Iranian Envoy, Khamene'i Message *[IRNA]* ..... T 2
Papers Criticize U.S. Invasion of Grenada ..... T 3
NLC Condemns 'U.S.-Led Invasion' of Grenada ..... T 3

TOGO

Eyadema Returns From Official Visit to U.S. ..... T 3

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara Claims 'Proof' of Countries' 'Hostility' ..... T 3
Sankara Leaves for Three Niamey Meetings ..... T 4
CDR Warns Against 'Suspicious' Meetings ..... T 4
CDR Chief on People's Vigilance Brigades ..... T 4

SOUTHERN AFRICA

MAURITIUS

Deputy Premier Comments on Planned Visit to RSA *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Soviet-Donated Rice Unloaded for Drought Victims ..... U 2

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister Rejects UN Resolution on Namibia ..... U 2
Prime Minister Comments on Minorities, Referendum ..... U 2
Police Identify Bomb Suspect as ANC Member ..... U 2
ANC Denial *[Umtata]* ..... U 3
ANC Statement Urges No Vote on New Constitution *[Umtata]* ..... U 3
ANC Secretary General Issues Statement on Grenada *[Addis Ababa Radio Freedom]* ..... U 3
ANC Supports Andropov Views on Euromissiles *[ANGOP]* ..... U 3

SWAZILAND

Reportage on 28 October General Elections ..... U 3
SWAZI NEWS: 'Massive' Turnout *[29 Oct]* ..... U 3
Announcement on Bhekimpi Expected *[Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL 29 Oct]* ..... U 4
New Cabinet To Be Announced *[THE SWAZI OBSERVER 29 Oct]* ..... U 4

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Condemns U.S. Military Action in Grenada ..... U 4
Presidential, Parliamentary Polling Results ..... U 5
State Minister Loses Seat ..... U 5
Kaunda To Be Sworn In ..... U 5

Al-Qadhdhafi Expels PLO Officials From Libya

JN281905 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] In a move similar to the Syrian moves, the Libyan authorities, at the order of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, expelled from Libyan territory the director of the PLO office in Tripoli as well as all those working there and their families. Al-Qadhdhafi's authorities told the director of the PLO office that the Libyan authorities are not responsible for their security and safety, and that they must leave the country immediately. The cadres of the PLO office, its director, and their families arrived in Tunis.

Closure of Office Criticized

JN282032 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1612 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] What is the difference between the behavior of Al-Qadhdhafi, who closed the PLO's offices in Libya today, and the 1977 behavior of As-Sadat, who closed Palestinian offices before leaving for occupied Palestine in order entrench his treason and announce his recognition of the Zionist enemy? The difference is very small, but obvious: As-Sadat openly revealed his agentry before everyone; however, Al-Qadhdhafi tried to cover up his treason with glossy slogans — liberation of Palestine, pan-Arabism, and the pan-Arab battle.

Today, following in the footsteps of As-Sadat and the Damascus intelligence, Al-Qadhdhafi closed the PLO office in Tripoli and expelled those who worked there. These are the slogans and heroism of Al-Qadhdhafi. We reveal Al-Qadhdhafi's measures to the Arab nation's masses so that they will add them to the rancorous agents' measures in Damascus and so that these masses will be made to realize that Al-Qadhdhafi and other agents like him in this nation are no longer able to conceal their treason. They are now competing to announce and implement it.

N. Lebanon Fighting, Libyan Expulsions Reported

JN290704 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Both Syrian and anti-'Arafat Palestinian sources have thus far declined to comment on yesterday's announcement by loyalists that large-scale military operations took place in the areas around the Palestinian camps in Tripoli, northern Lebanon.

Palestinian sources supporting Fatah's leadership announced last night that at 2200 yesterday Fatah's forces managed to repulse a concentrated offensive against Al-Minyah and the area east of Nahr al-Barid, and forced the attackers to withdraw to the areas under Syrian control.

In another development, the Palestinian news agency said the Libyan authorities warned the Palestinian offices' workers that they should leave Libya within 48 hours or else expose themselves to danger. WAFA also cited a Palestinian spokesman as saying that the Libyan organs opened fire on workers in the Palestinian offices in Benghazi, seriously wounding seven of them. The Palestinian spokesman, however, did not disclose the date of this incident or the names of the wounded.

Situation in North Lebanon 'Deteriorating'

JN281858 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The situation is deteriorating in a dangerous way in northern Lebanon as a result of the increasing Syrian military concentrations against the Palestinian camps near the city of Tripoli. Meanwhile, the Palestinian leadership is accelerating its moves to cope with this dangerous situation. The following is a detailed dispatch we received from our correspondent:

[Begin recording] A Palestinian revolution military spokesman has disclosed that the Syrian forces, the dissident groups, Ahmad Jibril's groups, and the As-Sa'iqah organization have formed a military operations room in order to run the battles that the Syrian command has decided to launch against the city of Tripoli and the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps.

A Palestinian military spokesman issued a statement yesterday on the developments in northern Lebanon. Here is the text of the statement as WAFA carried it: A military operations room was formed in northern Lebanon yesterday comprised of Brigadier General Sulayman 'Isa, commander of the Syrian forces in the north; Colonel Ghazi Kan'an, director of Syrian intelligence in Lebanon; Colonel Tariq al-Khadra, representative of the Palestine Liberation Army—Hittin Forces; Colonel Salah Ma'ani, commander of the Syrian as-Sa'iqah forces; dissident Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha]; and Ahmad Jibril, representative of the PFLP-GC.

The Palestinian revolution wants to make it clear that the mission of this room is to run the battles that the Syrian command has decided to launch against the city of Tripoli and the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps. The Syrian forces reinforced the offensive force with four battalions of Syrian special units. These forces were placed on the frontline as of yesterday.

The Palestinian revolution appeals to all free men of our Arab nation to immediately infer that a new massacre is being prepared and to prevent a new tragedy from occurring to the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples similar to the Sabra and Shatila carnage and the other massacres of Tal az-Za'tar and Beirut.

WAFA further said: A Palestinian military spokesman yesterday issued a statement on the continued attacks on the Palestinian revolution positions. The spokesman said that the outskirts of Tripoli and the nearby port area were subjected to heavy artillery shelling coming from the Syrian positions located behind the (Al-'Adra) port area.

The spokesman stressed that the shelling is part of the military escalation aimed against the northern and Tripoli areas, as well as against the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps. This military escalation is being carried out from the Syrian positions by certain agent forces. [end recording]

'Violent' Shelling Reported Near Camps

NC282201 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Excerpt] An official Palestinian spokesman has stated that the positions around the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps came under violent artillery fire today from the Syrian positions. The spokesman added that heavy 122-mm artillery shells were fired. In addition, weapons of various calibers were also used. Reports emphasize that military concentrations were observed joining the Syrian units that are laying seige to Tripoli and to the Palestinian camps.

In another development, the masses of Al-Baddawi held a funeral for heroic martyr Diya' Subayhah, commander of the 1st Company of the [word indistinct] force, who was martyred today during the shelling of our forces' positions within the perimeter of the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps by agents of Syrian intelligence.

Syrian-Backed Dissidents Shell Tripoli Camp

JN301739 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] The atmosphere of military escalation by the Syrians and the groups belonging to the dissidents, the Syrian As-Sa'iqah, Ahmad Jibril, and Tariq al-Khadra, prevails in northern Lebanon. Armed elements from Syrian-controlled positions shelled the township of Al-Muhammarah, Markibta, and Nahr al-Barid refugee camp. The Syrians, Libyans, and their loyalist groups continue to reinforce their positions around Tripoli and the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi refugee camps. The shelling directed against civilian targets wounded several Lebanese and Palestinians. Nahr al-Barid refugee camp witnessed massive popular demonstrations in protest against the aggressions being carried out by the armed groups that are being instigated by Syrian intelligence against the civilians in the Palestinian refugee camps.

In another development, people arriving in European capitals from Damascus said that groups of dissidents accompanied by Syrian intelligence elements are harassing the families of the Palestinian strugglers who refused to give in to Syrian pressures to declare their dissent against the Fatah movement. Moreover, the dissident elements are seizing some houses and furniture that belong to the Palestinian fighters' families.

Syrian Army Praised for Not Attacking Fatah

JN282053 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1606 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Call to the brother officers and soldiers of the Syrian Arab Army in northern Lebanon: The Damascus regime, which is concentrating you around the Palestinian refugee camps in northern Lebanon and Tripoli, not only aims at striking at the Palestinian revolution, its masses, and leadership, but also at distorting the image of your Army and shedding the blood of the Syrian and Palestinian fighters in battles that only serve the Zionist enemy and the United States, which is licking the bleeding wounds of its soldiers in Beirut.

O brothers, men of the Syrian Arab Army in Al-Hirmil and northern Lebanon, your masses in Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and everywhere admired you when you foiled the rancorous agents by refusing to clash with the Fatah forces — the Palestinian revolution forces — in Al-Hirmil. That was all due to your awareness and your perception of the seriousness of the conspiracy — the conspiracy of fighting among the brothers of the one trench, Army, people, and nation. The agents in Damascus want to implement this conspiracy in order to serve the interests of their masters in Washington. O men of the Syrian Arab Army; O defenders of the homeland; O grandchildren and sons of the valiant martyrs who defended Syria's Arabism and independence; O generation of Yusuf al-'Adhmah and Ibrahim Hananu; O families of 'Izz ad-Din al-Qassam, the Sryain Arab who fought and was martyred for Palestine: The masses of the epithet of Damascus and Aleppo, Homs and Latakia, and the masses of the occupied Golan Heights are looking up to you, O men of the Syrian Army, to reject the conspiracy — the conspiracy of pushing you to fight your Palestinian brothers, the fighters and civilians in Tripoli, Al-Baddawi, and Nahr al-Barid refugee camps.

O men of the Syrian Arab Army, history will record with words of light that Syria's free men — the officers and soldiers of the Syrian Arab Army — refused to use their weapons against the Palestinian revolution and the sons of the Palestinian people. This is because you know that these weapons must be directed against the Zionist enemy, the agents and traitors, and all those who attempt to distort the reputation of Syria's Arab Army, of which every Arab citizen is proud — proud of its heroic stands against the Zionist enemy.

Fatah's Khalil al-Wazir on Lebanon Situation

GF291746 Kuwait Al-Qabas in Arabic 28 Oct 83 p 14

[Excerpt] Tripoli — In Al-Baddawi camp, which is located on the northern side of the Lebanese city of Tripoli, an *Al-Qabas* delegation met with Deputy Commander in Chief Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] in his modest office, which is surrounded by the military command in charge of organizing the Palestinian forces that belong to Fatah.

Before the interview, a quick chat took place with Abu Jihad regarding the logistic and military situations following the siege imposed by Israel from the sea and by some of the Palestinian organizations that oppose the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat from land.

Abu Jihad disclosed that there are many difficulties in logistics and in supplying the forces with ammunition and arms. However, he stressed that the military situation is good despite all the obstacles facing the supplies on land and sea. Abu Jihad said that hundreds of fighters who were previously forced out of Lebanon by Israel in the wake of Beirut's siege in June 1982 have been called back. The deputy commander in chief said that so far more than 1,500 Palestinian fighters have arrived from the YAR,

Sudan, Jordan, Tunisia, and Algeria, and that some fighters are on their way to the capital of northern Lebanon.

About the contacts made so far by all the international, Arab and regional parties in order to ease the tension between Syria and the PLO, Abu Jihad said: "They have failed, and the road is blocked, blocked, blocked."

Abu Jihad did not exclude the possibility that Syria might attack Tripoli once all the efforts to cleanse the atmosphere have failed. He added: The Palestinian forces are prepared to defend themselves. Abu Jihad hoped that such a confrontation would not take place and hoped that matters will be settled before any confrontation takes place because both Syria and the PLO stand in one ditch.

Fatah Awaits Syrian, Dissident Reply on Discord

JN311006 Amman Ad-Dustur in Arabic 31 Oct 83 p 20

[Text] Amman — *Ad-Dustur* — A responsible Palestinian source in Amman said yesterday that the Fatah command ordered its forces in Tripoli and the Palestinian camps in north Lebanon to practice self-restraint and to not retaliate against dissident and Ahmad Jibril's forces except in self-defense. The order was issued in expectation of a response from the Syrian Government and the dissidents to the proposals which Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, made for solving the Fatah discord.

These proposals can be summarized as follows: democratic separationand formation of a new group; a return to the Fatah framework; or, the formation of a joint committee comprising the opposing sides in order to resolve the differences within Fatah and to prepare for holding the movement's general conference.

The source explained that Khalid al-Hasan is still in Damascus waiting for replies from the Syrian Government and the dissidents with whom contacts are being made through Syrian channels.

Tension prevails in Tripoli following the violent clashes which took place the night before last between the Fatah and dissident forces.

AL-FAJR Criticizes Syrian 'Plot' To Liquidate PLO

JN301512 Jerusalem Al-Fajr in Arabic 28 Oct 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Arab Silence and the Large Plot"]

[Text] The reported huge Syrian military concentrations around the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid Camps in Tripoli are a new serious escalation of the hostile Syrian stand against the PLO, and fall within the framework of the scheme aimed at liquidating this organization and creating frail alternatives.

Prior to these concentrations, the Syrian forces imposed a comprehensive siege on the Fatah movement's positions in Tripoli in order to suppress and terrorize the Palestinians there in an attempt to destroy their spirit of steadfastness and force them to surrender. The Syrian regime makes a big mistake if it contemplates such an adventure, as it will pose large dangers even to this regime itself. The Palestinian people, who are used to confronting all those who plotted against them and their cause, will defy death this time in defense of their rights and the gains achieved throughout their long period of struggle.

What is strange is that the Syrian regime is preparing for an aggression to eliminate the organization at a time when the Arab countries have been utterly silent since the beginning of the Syrian plot. The continuation of this Arab silence can only be interpreted as participation in this crime, which is being committed in front of the Arabs' eyes. In light of these grave developments, it is the Arab regimes' national and pan-Arab responsibility to immediately interfere in order to stop this Syrian aggression and end the crime being perpetrated against the Palestinian people. This is because our people do not distinguish between the killer and the spectator.

'Arafat Inspects Positions, Discusses Dissension

NC292218 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, made an inspection tour of the Palestinian revolution fighters' positions in the north. Abu 'Ammar was accompanied by a number of military commanders and political cadres.

The brother commander in chief saw for himself the defensive measures and preparations that have been taken and made to protect the Palestinian people's gains and to preserve the revolution's independent decisionmaking. Brother Abu 'Ammar expressed gratification over the high morale and the combat readiness that our Palestinian combatants enjoy, and our Palestinian fighters' determination to confront and frustrate the conspiracy.

During his call on the Bayt al-Maqdis battalion, the brother commander in chief met with the cadres and combatants of the battalion and with their comrade members of the Norwegian and French friendship associations, as well as with some newspaper correspondents. At this meeting, Brother Abu 'Ammar explained the latest developments that have occurred on the Palestinian scene. He noted that the present events in northern Lebanon constitute an extension of the Israeli military campaign of the summer of 1982 that was aimed at removing the sole obstacle in the way to the imposition of complete U.S. hegemony on the Arab area.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said: The U.S. quest to set up sectarian cantons in the area and attempts to strike at the PLO is an effort to stabilize this hegemony and to insure its interests. Therefore, the strife will be commensurate with these interests. Consequently, the strife will be a hard and protracted one.

The brother commander in chief yesterday helped the junior revolutionary cadres in strengthening our forces' positions. The reason is that the Jibril-Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] group dissidents yesterday initiated large-scale military operations,

after having proceeded from the Syrian positions, against our forces' positions and against our popular masses' dwellings.

In another development, during an interview with the press news agency [wikalati al-anba' as-sahafiyah], Brother Abu 'Ammar emphasized that what has happened within the Fatah movement is not something internal, but has resulted from the Syrian-Libyan interference in the Palestinian revolution's affairs. Brother Abu 'Ammar said: It has become clear that what has happened is a flagrant interference [words indistinct] from Syria and Libya, who took advantage of the state of affairs that followed the revolution's exodus from Beirut in an attempt to accomplish wha Israel, with all the U.S. weapons at its disposal, had failed to do.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said: It is enough for me to note that what has been called the dissension phenomenon has not extended beyond Syria and the Syrian-controlled area of Lebanon. This fact does not leave room for optimism. Why hasn't the dissension occurred in the other areas? He stated that the Syrians have used some of the same figureheads and names that they used in 1976. They have come up with Tariq al-Khadra instead of Musbah al-Budayri, and the (?difference) is the [word indistinct], while Ahmad Jibril is still Ahmad Jibril. Then they came up with Abu Musa in addition.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said that he is ready for a dialogue with Syria. However, this dialogue has not thus far (?materialized).

Noting the military operations against the Palestinian revolution in Tripoli, he said: These operations began only 2 days after Al-Asad's reception of Brother Khalid al-Hasan.

In connection with the same theme, Brother Abu 'Ammar warned against the existence of a conspiracy to establish an alternative PLO and to divide Lebanon into statelets as an approach to the Balkanization of the Middle East area. In an interview published in today's edition of the Paris-based *Al-Watan al-'Arabi* magazine, Brother Abu 'Ammar stressed the need for convening the coming Arab summit conference on its scheduled date, or for convening an urgent conference of the Arab foreign ministers to discuss the means for confronting this conspiracy.

As-Sa'iqah North Command Issues Statement

NC311108 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] In a statement issued yesterday, the north region command of the As-Sa'iqah forces emphasized that it will not leave the Al-Baddawi and Al-Barid camps. It threatened to unravel facts and evidence against some comrades in As-Sa'iqah who are jeering at the north command. The statement said: The skepticism some comrades are leveling against us only increases our determination to remain among our comrades and folks in the camps. We shall not leave the camps, particularly because we are one of the platoons of the Palestinian revolution operating within the framework of the PLO — the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The Sa'iqah north region command stressed its dedication to what it stated, and added: We will remain among our people in the Palestinian camps, we will not pull out of there. We will not tolerate the hitting or shelling of the camps, or of our offices and civilian and military positions. We will remain steadfast alongside our comrades and folks in the camps until victory or martyrdom on behalf of our sacred cause. The statement was signed by Comrades Amin Abu Shadi, Fawzi Abu al-'Abd, Sa'id Abu Ahmad, and Fathi Abu Muhammad.

Confrontation, Clashes With Syrians Rejected

JN292123 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1628 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Correspondent's recorded dispatch presenting commentary by political editor]

[Text] It is clear and natural that neither the Palestinian revolution nor its leadership has any interest in the escalating clashes in northern Lebanon. The Palestinian interest calls for stopping these clashes. The revolution, through the PLO and the Palestinian organizations, badly needs a long break in order to reorganize its ranks and increase the efficiency of struggle against its primary enemy, the Zionist enemy. There is no doubt that the events of the past 18 months, whether on the regional or Palestinian internal level, make this break sound necessary and peristent. The continuity of the struggle against the enemy under these aggravating circumstances makes reviewing the situation as well as the conditions and styles of struggle a fundamental task.

This is a fact that is taken for granted, and yet is quite known by the youngest cub in the revolution and by the youngest child hurling stones at the enemy in the occupied homeland. This fact clarifies and stresses that the escalating clashes in Tripoli and northern Lebanon are the features of a plot aimed against the Palestinian militant interest.

We have to note here that those opening fire in these clashes, which are imposed on the Palestinian revolution, cannot be Palestinians even in name. No nationalist Palestinian is capable of working against the Palestinian interest. There is no doubt that those who are known to be Palestinian in name and who are attacking the revolution's positions in northern Lebanon or any other spot have completely lost any connection with the Palestinian people's interests and objectives, and have affiliated themselves with the interests of others, the interests of the enemies. It has been practically confirmed that those Palestinians in name lack the ability to influence the events that have been taking place since last May.

There is no difference between the dissident putschist elements in Fatah and the other organizations that are affiliated with this or that regime — namely, the Ahmad Jibril groups, the As-Sa'iqah organization, and Tariq al-Khadra. Whether they are satisfied with making statements or with brandishing arms in front of the Palestinian revolution's fighters and people, they still cannot affect the Palestinian people's struggle in any way.

We reiterate that the dissidents have not split Fatah, but have actually isolated themselves from militant Fatah. When the

dissidents' overlords failed to find anyone to challenge the Palestinian legitimacy, they tried to use an agent such Tariq al-Khadra. The fact that all these hireling groups had opened fire on the fighters did not affect the Palestinian forces' position in Al-Biqa'. All of their attacks failed to remove any of our fighters from their positions. When this theatrical move failed, the Syrian forces used their tanks and artillery and ordered the Palestinian forces to leave the confrontation positions they had maintained for 15 years in the area.

The theatrical move is now taking place in northern Lebanon. It started with escalating small offenses on the revolution's forces, positions, and camps. One should not say that this or that side is launching the offenses, because all moves and offenses come from areas controlled by the Syrian forces. All moves take place on the Syrian forces' orders, particularly since these forces are increasing their number and equipment around the revolution's positions.

The logic of the events and realities on the ground indicates that the theatrical move of these clashes will be crowned by a large-scale and direct Syrian military interference. If the goal of these clashes, which are a part of the plot, is to prevent the revolution from having the opportunity to promote its militant abilities in the face of the Zionist enemy, then the expected Syrian offensive will try to undermine any struggle opportunity and to provide the enemy with all the opportunities it needs. The revolution shall not vanish and the struggle shall not stop. The question is, which one of Damascus' faces is this?

PNC Reconciliation Committee Reportedly Meets

JN3110838 Amman Ad-Dustur in Arabic 31 Oct 83 pp 1, 21

[Text] Amman — *Ad-Dustur* — The Palestinian reconciliation committee that the PNC formed to discuss Palestinian-Syrian differences and the Fatah discord is resuming its meetings in order to assess its work in light of the developments that are being witnessed in the Palestinian arena. The committee held a 3-hour meeting yesterday during which it discussed several pending issues. It will hold another meeting within the next two days.

Ad-Dustur learned that PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum had telephoned from Damascus a number of Palestinian figures who are members of the reconciliation committee, urging them to pursue their efforts of reconciliation between the two conflicting Fatah parties.

Khalaf Visits Palestinian Forces in Tebessa

LD3003O3 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Reporter's dispatch from Tebessa]

[Text] As part of his current visit to Algeria, Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, yesterday visited the Palestinian forces stationed in Tebessa Department. Brother Abu Iyad was welcomed at the airport by brother members of the (?Executive) Bureau in Tebessa Department, Brother Staff Colonel Muhammad (?Jihadi), commander of the Palestinian forces, and senior Palestinian and Algerian officers.

At his meeting with the fighters of [name indistinct], Brother Abu Iyad reviewed the turning points experienced by the Palestinian revolution since its outbreak. He said that from the first day of its emergence on 1 January 1965, the Palestinian revolution had been the target of a psychological war by the Arab regimes. Despite this, the Palestinian revolution would continue its march until it obtained, through blood and sacrifices, the recognition of the entire world, including the Arab regimes, of its right to represent the Palestinian people.

Arab regimes did not accept this and this was why the attack was mounted in 1975-76 against the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese patriotic movement under the cover of what is called the Arab deterrent forces. Brother Abu Iyad noted the role of the Martyr Kamal Junblatt, who was described by the Syrian regime as an agent of imperialism and the United States. [sentence indistinct]

Brother Abu Iyad reviewed the dangerous roles played by the Syrian regime. He said: This regime proposed to Fatah that it liquidate (?itself) and that the Palestinian combat groups should join (?its forces). The Fatah leadership rejected the spilling of even one drop of Palestinian blood.

Abu Iyad went on: This regime promised to (?deploy) a force of 25,000 soldiers of the special Syrian force under the name of the liberation army in the event of Israel penetrating a depth of 45 kilometers into south Lebanon and to (?engage in a full-scale) war with all its forces if the Israeli forces advanced toward Beirut.

In his talk about the strategic relationship between the Arabs and the Soviet Union, Brother Abu Iyad expressed optimism over the future of this relationship. He said: The bitter experiences in the past (?prompt us) to say that the Soviet Union will leave all the Arab area and Syria in particular.

About the role of the Libyan regime in this ferocious onslaught against the Palestinian revolution forces, Brother Abu Iyad reviewed the practices of Al-Qadhdhafi against the revolution and its support. He said that the Libyan authorities gave permission to a rabble to occupy the PLO office in Tripoli in a savage way. This regime did not stop at this point to strike the Palestinian revolution but went beyond it to the extent of threatening the PDRY, to make it increase its investments in this fraternal country, which amount to 350 million dollars. It threatened to stop shipments of Libyan oil to the PDRY if the PDRY remained firm in its principle to support the Palestinian revolution.

About the reform movement inside the Fatah movement, he said: Reform is the demand of all. The differences inside the movement are a healthy and normal thing provided they remain within the Palestinian house. He noted that the general conference of the Fatah movement will be held in January 1984 as decided by the Fatah Central Committee at its recent meeting in Kuwait. In the evening Brother Abu Iyad left Tebessa Department and returned to Algiers.

Meet Messaadia

LD310841 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] The Palestinian delegation led by Brother Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, continues its visit to Algeria. It was received yesterday by Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and secretary of its permanent committee. The meeting was attended by Brother Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], member of Fatah Central Committee and of the PLO Executive Committee; the poet Brother Mahmud Darwish, member of the Palestinian National Council; and Brother Abu [name indistinct], director general of the As-Samid organization. On the Algerian side it was attended by Brother (As-Sadiq Zuwaytin), liberation movement official for the FLN. During the meeting the latest developments in the Palestinian arena were discussed, including the fierce conspiracy to which the Palestinians are being subjected with the aim of harming the unity of the Palestinian ranks as well as the conspiracy against the Palestinian national independent decision-making. Brother Messaadia confirmed to the Palestinian delegation the firm Algerian stand of supporting the PLO, sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and backing the independent Palestinian national decision consecrated at the 17th session of the Palestinian National Council recently held in Algiers. Brother Messaadia also received Brother Muhsin Ibrahim, secretary general of the Lebanese Organization of Communist Action.

Reaction to Reagan Statement on PLO Noted

NC290824 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Commenting on U.S. President Reagan's statement in which he described the PLO as a gang, an official Palestinian source said: We would like to remind Reagan that it was the U.S. political decision and U.S. weapons, including those internationally banned, that have ruined Beirut. The spokesman added that these weapons were used by the Israeli army and U.S. advisers in Beirut, which was a testing field for their destructive weapons. The spokesman said: We would also like to recall that the United States has failed to honor the agreement with the PLO when it allowed the Israeli army to enter West Beirut and commit the Sabra and Shatila massacres. Our Palestinian people will never forget the continuing hostile stand of the U.S. Administration against the Palestinian people's rights and legitimate aspirations. This stand will never prevent our people from continuing the struggle until their objectives for repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent state, with Jerusalem as its capital, under the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, are achieved.

Reagan Policy Blamed for Beirut Incident

JN301531 Jerusalem Ash-Sha'b in Arabic 25 Oct 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Two Explosions in Beirut"]

[Text] At a time when the Americans were picking up their dead from under the rubble of the Marines' headquarters in Lebanon, U.S. President Ronald Reagan was talking about the need to continue Western control over the Middle East. It seems that Reagan does not want to know that the colonialist and expansionist tone of his words and his policies are responsible for the death of the U.S. Marines in Beirut the day before yesterday and for any future operations against the U.S. presence in the region.

Reagan is no longer trying to put on masks, to talk about the role of the splendid young Marines in preserving peace, or to talk about the sincere U.S. efforts to rescue Lebanon and restore peace to the region. He is presenting affairs as they are, without any makeup, calling for consecrating the Western colonialist hegemony on the Middle East and for suppressing the revolutionary movements that oppose this hegemony.

This old, but new, imperialist trend sounds the warning sirens of possible new hostile U.S. steps against the Arab people and countries. Talks about punishment, revenge, and the possible occupation of certain positions in Lebanon is only an indication of these likely hostile steps. This means that all the national Arab states and forces are urgently required to overcome their peripheral differences and close up their ranks in order to confront the coming challenges.

Baghdad VOP Cites Romberg on Retaliatory Action

JN291759 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The U.S. State Department has announced that what it described as a retaliatory action against those who blew up the headquarters in Beirut of both the U.S. Marines and the French soldiers will be intended to prevent such attacks. Alan Romberg, spokesman for the department, said that the U.S. retaliation for these incidents will be a mere precaution. He further said that U.S. officials are currently gathering data in order to learn the identity of those who carried out this suicidal attack, which killed more than 289 U.S. and French soldiers on Sunday. Romberg refused to talk about alternatives for responding to the attack that Secretary of State George Shultz recently mentioned. Romberg added that the Multinational Force in Lebanon is likely to receive more attacks. Accordingly, he said, the United States will adopt certain precautionary measures, as he described it.

Joint Forces Attack Israelis in S. Lebanon

JN301744 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Two groups of the Palestinian-National Lebanese joint forces have set off two separate explosive charges. The first was on the road between Al-Bazuriyah and Juwayya, and the second was in Mahallat Abu Mar'i near Al-Qasimiyah bridge south of Sidon. The two explosive charges killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers. The two groups returned safely to base.

A Zionist spokesman admitted the operations and said that his forces cordoned off the two areas and searched for the attackers. The spokesman said that the Zionist forces closed all roads leading to the two areas and arrested several citizens for interrogation.

GULF AFFAIRS

YAR-PDRY Border Discussions Continue in Kuwait

LD301218 Kuwait KUNA in English 1025 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 30 (KUNA) — Representatives of South Yemen and Oman Sultanate resume sitting here Sunday at the second day of work sessions to end border problems under the joint auspices of Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. Kuwait and the UAE have succeeded in bringing the two neighboring Arab countries closer together after 15 years of enmity.

The border committee, which held its first session in Abu Dhabi in January, held two meetings Saturday in which views of both parties on the demarcation of the common borders were tabled, according to reliable Gulf sources. The sources added that the two parties agreed in principle on the borders delineated in 1965, and explained that details will be scrutinized according to maps and documents obtained by each side.

The committee is formed in accordance with the declaration of principles signed by the two countries in Kuwait on October 27 last year.

Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Rashid ar-Rashid, and his UAE counterpart 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarwan, are taking part in the meetings along with the Yemeni Deputy Interior Minister 'Abd al-Was'a Salam and Oman's State Minister and Governor of Dhofar Muhammad al-Qitibi. Representatives of both countries have announced at the inaugural session Saturday their respective governments' determination to normalize relations.

The Kuwaiti and UAE chief delegates, meanwhile, asserted that normal relations between the two states, at the south of the Arabian Peninsula, will be a basic factor in promoting the development process in Aden and Muscat and in maintaining security and stability in the region. The Gulf sources said that the two countries will focus on following up normalization steps after the announcement of establishing diplomatic relations between them last Thursday. These steps include economic and commercial cooperation, and facilitating movement procedure and concluding such agreements in writing. Accomplishing such progress would overcome obstacles which hurdle the demarcation issue, the sources believed.

Ar-Rashid said, following the evening session Saturday, that the talks were conducted in a "cordial atmosphere amidst a genuine desire for cooperation." Al-Jarwan noted that the meeting was "positive and fruitful".

Officials Visit Kuwait Amir

LD301314 Kuwait KUNA in English 1157 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 30 (KUNA) — H.H. the Amir received in audience Sunday the Omani Deputy state minister, the Governor of Dhofar Shaylh Mohammed ibn 'Ali al-Qitibi, and members of the accompanying technical committee. H.H. also received the Deputy Interior Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) 'Abd al-Was'a Salam and the accompanying technical delegation. The delegations arrived here for the second meeting on their joint borders in an effort to normalize relations between the two states.

The meeting was attended by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Foreign Ministry's Under Secretary 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarwan, Kuwait Foreign Ministry's Under Secretary Rashid ar-Rashid, ambassadors of the UAE, Oman, and the PDRY, Foreign Ministry's Legal Department Director Tariq Rezuqi, and Secretary General of the Foreign Ministry's Gulf Cooperation Committee Dr Salim Jabir al-Ahmad.

Agreement Based on 1967 Accord

LD301226 Kuwait KUNA in English 1037 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 30 (KUNA) — A sub-committee started meeting Sunday at Dasman guest house toward the final formula for the outcome of the broader South Yemeni-Omani border committee. The affiliate committee will further prepare a press statement to be announced at the end of the meetings later today. The release will include details of the main committee's sessions which opened here Saturday and the maps and documents exchanged by the two parties with the aim of reaching a final solution to demarcation of their common borders.

The demarcation will be in accordance with the neighbouring countries' existing borders on November 30, 1967 as stipulated in the declaration of principles, and not according to the 1965 border lines as reported Saturday.

Border Committee Session Ends

LD302238 Kuwait KUNA in English 1654 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 30 (KUNA) — The Omani-South Yemeni border committee wound up here Sunday its second session by signing minutes of its two-day deliberations in the presence of Kuwaiti and UAE observers.

During three full working sessions and an exclusive meeting held between the two countries' chief delegates, the committee exchanged views regarding demarcation of the common borders and each side presented supporting documents in its possession. The delegation of Democratic Yemen was reported to have submitted to the Omani side seven different notes on the subject, while the latter pledged Oman's full adherence to the border existing between the two countries in 1965.

A press release by the two sides said that the common border technical committee's meeting was a completion of its first session held in Abu Dhabi last January. It added that during this session, views of the two fraternal countries on the border issue were heard and pertinent documents and notes were exchanged. Establishing diplomatic relations between Aden and Muscat has reflected positively on the fraternal and cordial atmosphere which permeated the committee's meetings. The two countries, according to the release, agreed to hold another meeting whose date will be decided in consultation "in view that studying of the presented documents will need enough time."

In this respect, Kuwait and the UAE proposed that the next meeting of the committee be held either in Muscat or Aden as manifestation of the spirit of cooperation and reflection of the new stage of cordial relations between the two states.

Commenting on the outcome of the two-day meeting, the chief delegates praised the efforts exerted by all parties and the atmosphere which dominated the talks. They reiterated the two countries' sincere wish to reach suitable solutions that will preserve the rights of both parties.

The Omani delegation to the talks was led by the deputy minister of state and deputy ruler of Dhofar, Shaykh Muhammad ibn 'Ali al-Qitibi, while the South Yemeni side was headed by the deputy minister of interior, 'Abd al-Wahid Salam [spelling as received]. Kuwait and the UAE were represented by their respective under secretaries for foreign affairs.

Later in the evening, the Omani chief delegate left Kuwait at the end of his two-day stay for the border meeting and was seen off at the airport by Foreign [Ministry] Under Secretary Rashid ar-Rashid.

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives U.S. Defense Official Armitage

GF301156 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0803 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Manama, 30 Oct (WAKH) — Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received here this morning Richard Armitage, U.S. assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, and the accompanying delegation who is currently visiting Manama. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent, acting prime minister, and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, foreign affairs minister; and Charles Brayshaw, U.S. charge d'affaires to Bahrain.

The U.S. official arrived in Manama yesterday on a 2-day visit to Bahrain within his tour of the Middle East region.

Armitage Meets Heir Apparent

GF301416 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1245 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Manama, 30 Oct (WAKH) — A session of formal talks between the Bahraini side headed by Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent, acting prime minister, and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force, and the U.S. side headed by Richard Armitage, assistant U.S. secretary of defense for international security affairs, was held in Manama today. During the session the two sides reviewed bilateral relations, especially concerning security and stability in the region in addition to the latest developments witnessed by the Arabian Gulf region.

The session was attended on the Bahraini side by Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah; chief of Staff Staff Brigadier Shaykh Khalifah ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah; and on the U.S. side by Charles Brayshaw, U.S. charge d'affaires in Bahrain and the delegation accompanying the assistant U.S. secretary of defense.

SAUDI ARABIA

Minister, Envoy Leave for Geneva Conference

LD301119 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0940 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda, 30 Oct (SPA) — His Excellency the Minister of State and member of the Council of Ministers Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, and His Majesty's ambassador in Beirut Ahmad Kuhaymi left Jidda for Geneva this morning to represent the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as an observer in the national dialogue conference due to be held in Geneva.

Arrive in Geneva

LD302155 Riyadh SPA in English 1921 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Geneva, Oct 30, SPA — Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, the minister of state and member of the Council of Ministers, and Ahmad al-Kuhaymi, the Kingdom's ambassador to Lebanon, arrived here tonight from Jidda. They will represent Saudi Arabia as observers in the Lebanese reconciliation talks due to take place in Geneva tomorrow.

On arrival, Mas'ud said the Kingdom's participation in the talks was in response to its leading and constructive role under the leadership of HM King Fahd that led to a cease-fire in Lebanon last month. He told SPA that the Kingdom was happy to continue its efforts to observe the success of the national reconciliation conference and expressed hope that the meeting would bring about positive results that could strengthen previous steps taken on the path of re-establishing national unity in Lebanon and ensuring peace in the country.

Mas'ud expressed confidence that the participants were fully aware of the current stage of common destiny, which needed cohesion and unification of ranks to save their country from destruction. He said tragedies and sufferings, which are befallen on the Lebanese brothers, should provide an impetus to make the conference a success with sincere goals so that the country could provide freedom, justice, and equality for all its people. He expressed the Kingdom's hope that the conference would succeed in realising its objectives, and stressed that the success was the only option for all factions so as to "enable Lebanon to shoulder its natural Arab role in unity and solidarity."

Mas'ud Meets Syria's Khaddam

LD302205 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2115 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Geneva, 30 Oct (SPA) — The Minister of state and member of the Council of Ministers, Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, conferred tonight in Geneva with the Syrian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Both arrived this evening in Geneva to take part as observers in the Lebanese national dialogue conference due to begin tomorrow in Geneva.

During the meeting, methods that should be explored to bring the Lebanese national dialogue conference to achieve the results expected from its convocation were discussed. It was learned that the conference will begin tomorrow evening and not in the morning, as was reported earlier.

Prince Bandar Optimistic

NC291757 Paris AFP in English 1704 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Paris, Oct 29 (AFP) — Agreement on the formation of a Lebanese government of national unity at Monday's congress in Geneva will be "easy," the Saudi mediator, Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, said in an interview published here today.

"All my talks with the parties to the conflict lead me to think that it will be easy to reach an agreement," the prince, who is also Saudi ambassador to Washington, said in the interview with the newspaper *Le Monde*. "In my opinion, the congress participants should, without delay, set up a government of national union, and leave it to an ad hoc committees to iron out divergencies and work out the needed institutional reforms," he added.

Such a procedure would have the "double advantage of changing, in the days to come, the cease-fire into a stable civilian peace, and making the presence of the Multinational Forces on Lebanese soil superfluous," he said. Prince Bandar helped arrange the cease-fire in Lebanon that went into effect on September 26.

"President Amin al-Jumayyil is a man of goodwill. He will state, from the first congress session, that everything, absolutely everything, is negotiable," Prince Bandar said. "His adversaries have given me assurances that they will put into question neither the legitimacy of the head of state, nor the foundations of the Lebanese state — its constitution and the 'national pact'. The only issue to be dealt with (at the congress) will concern small amendments to ensure a better balance between communities," Prince Bandar said.

The unwritten Lebanese national pact, concluded in 1943, divided up government posts among members of Lebanon's various communities. Under it, the presidency normally goes to a Maronite Christian, the post of prime minister to a Sunni Moslem and that of chairman of Lebanon's parliament, or house of deputies, to a Shi'ite Muslim. [passage indistinct]

UAE

President Determined To Reconcile Algeria, Morocco

GF281946 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1840 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Rabat, 28 Oct (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan stressed that he will continue his intense efforts to eliminate the differences between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Algerian Republic in order to reconcile their views on existing problems and establish a new ground for relations between the two fraternal countries within the framework of his continuing anxiousness to cleanse Arab atmospheres in preparation for the next Arab summit.

In a statement to WAM, Shaykh Zayid said: I am determined to continue the mediation and to exert efforts to deploy Arab powers and resources, especially in these circumstances that demand an active Arab solidarity. He added that his mediation between Morocco and Algeria has taken place in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and that efforts will be resumed during the next few days as both sides are in readiness and appreciative of these efforts and want them to continue until they reach fruition.

Shaykh Zayid indicated in his statement that after having been thoroughly briefed today on the shuttle tours made by Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, petroleum and mineral resources minister, to both countries, he decided to commission Dr al-'Utaybah to embark on a new tour and leave for Paris tomorrow to deliver a message from his highness to King Hassan II of Morocco. Afterwards he will go to Algeria on a similar mission.

Shaykh Zayid expressed readiness to meet with the Moroccan king and the Algerian president later on in order to complement the mediation and make it succeed "because its goal is more sublime than merely reconciling both fraternal states, and because the results of these efforts will be felt by all the Arabs, with the help of God and his grace."

His highness thanked both leaders for their sincere cooperation in order to crown his mission with success. He concluded his statement by saying: "We shall not be able to accomplish the hopes of our nation unless we stand in one line in order to preserve our existance and regain our dignity and rights. Our people are expecting positive steps from us in order to compensate for what we have lost as a result of division and disunity."

AL-ITTIHAD: Israel Responsible for Beirut Bombs

GF301430 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0710 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Oct (WAM) — In its editorial today *Al-Ittihad warns the United States against becoming militarily* involved in Middle East issues because of the people of the area are no exception among peoples in their love for their country and view their land as sacred. There is no weapon that can destroy man's ability to resist, the paper says.

Al-Ittihad holds Israel fully responsible for what happened in Lebanon and what happened to the U.S. forces in Lebanon because Israel is the only party that stands to benefit from a U.S. entanglement in the region. The paper says that a few days before the explosion at the U.S. Marines' headquarters, former U.S. National Security Adviser Brzezinski warned that "there are forces in Israel that want the United States to become militarily involved in the area" and a few days later the explosion occured at the Marines' headquarters in Beirut.

Referring to the hue and cry raised by the United States after the explosion and its hint at retaliating against the perpetrators *Al-Ittihad says: Any U.S. military action may exacerbate the* situation and open the door to reactions which no one can control, and the creation of another Vietnam situation is not all that impossible or unlikely. The paper corroborates this assertion by

what is happening in Grenada where the United States believed it could crush resistance in a few hours and landed a force of only 1,200 soldiers but later had to increase its forces on ground and in the sea to 16,000, and sustained scores of casualties, killed or wounded, and the fighting is still continuing.

In conclusion, *Al-Ittihad* asserts that the Arabs are no exception in defending their sanctities and land, and therefore it is in the interest of both the United States and the Arabs and in the interest of world peace that the United States is not pushed to implement the wishes of Zionist circles that want to entangle it in the region "and we hope that the United States will not fall into another Vietnam unless it really wants to do so."

Delegation to Oman-PDRY Meeting Leaves for Kuwait

GF290738 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 29 Oct (WAKH) — A UAE delegation, led by 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarwan, under secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, left for Kuwait to attend the meeting of the technical committee delineating the border between Oman and the PDRY which will be held in Kuwait later today.

PDRY

President Discusses Border Meetings, Oil

LD301312 Kuwait KUNA in English 1112 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Oct 30 (KUNA) — The president of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen was quoted as saying Sunday that his country is keen on maintaining good relations with neighboring countries and constructively cooperating with them without interference in internal affairs.

President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said in an interview with *Al-Wahdah that the joint Oman-South Yemen border commit*tee will resume meetings today in Kuwait to pave the way for the full normalization of relations following the establishment of diplomatic relations between Aden and Muscat last week. On the other hand, President Muhammad said that other efforts are under way with the eventual objective of achieving the unity between the two parts of Yeman, adding that a number of practical measures toward that goal had been carried out so far.

The president reiterated keenness on the unity of the PLO, and said he would continue toward achieving the unity of that organization and bolstering the Syrian-Palestinian alliance.

On the new petroleum discoveries in South Yemen, Muhammad said oil finds had been made in Hadhramaut area and an Italian oil company was contracted to explore that oil. He added that Soviet experts are currently exploring for oil in Shbout Governorate, and had already achieved positive results.

On relations between his country and member-states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, the South Yemani president said: "Our relations with our sisterly neighboring states are based on the principles of peaceful co-existence, mutual respect, good neighborhood, constructive cooperation, non-interference in internal affairs and keeping the peoples of the region away from the hazards of aggressive imperialist military presence." He added: "We are keen on continuing our relations with neighboring states on these basis in a way that serves the vital interests of countries and peoples of the region."

As for the Iran-Iraq war, he said South Yemen was against the eruption of that war from the very beginning, adding: "It is clear that the war had exhausted the capabilities of Iraq and Iran and curbed their participation in the struggle against the imperialist-Zionist alliance."

Ghali Returns to Cairo From Beirut 28 Oct

NC282309 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Cairo from Beirut this evening. On his return, Dr Ghali said that he delivered a message from President Mubarak to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, who gave him a reply to it.

Dr Ghali said that his talks with President al-Jumayyil were very positive and dealt with bilateral relations and questions pertaining to the Geneva conference on Lebanese national reconciliation. He noted that he held talks with the Lebanese prime minister, the foreign minister, and the chamber of deputies speaker.

Dr Ghali affirmed that there is agreement between Egypt and Lebanon on the assessment of the situation in the Middle East and Lebanon. He also affirmed that Egypt supports the convening of the Geneva conference and hopes it will succeed so that national unity and political independence can be achieved and the foreign forces can leave Lebanon.

Dr Ghali said that Egypt will continue its efforts until a just and comprehensive peace is achieved in the Middle East because it rejects a partial or bilateral peace. He said that he will submit a comprehensive report to President Mubarak on his visit to Lebanon.

Mubarak Receives Al-Jumayyil Message 29 Oct

NC291258 Cairo MENA in English 1253 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 29 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today received a message from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil on the current situation in Lebanon and efforts exerted to realize national reconciliation.

The message was handed by head of Lebanon's Interests Section here Ambassador 'Abd ar-Rahman as-Sulh to Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali during their meeting.

Following the meeting, As-Sulh said that the message expressed Lebanon's appreciation for the honorable stances of Egypt under President Husni Mubarak to maintain Lebanon's independence and sovereignty.

He added that Egypt's efforts will help realize the targets of the Lebanese people.

'Ali Hopes for Success of Lebanese Conference

NC291516 Cairo MENA in English 1432 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 29 (MENA) — Egypt hopes that the Lebanese National Reconciliation conference would reach a resolution to be accepted by all the contesting parties, for maintaining unity, independence, and sovereignty of Lebanon, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said today.

The Lebanese parties should consider mainly the national interest of Lebanon regardless of any foreign influence 'Ali said, adding that the current Lebanese stage through which Lebanon was passing is the most crucial stage in the history of Lebanon.

'Ali expressed confidence that the parties concerned to the Lebanese crisis are aware of the fact that they have only one choice namely the solidarity, independence and sovereignty of Lebanon.

Mubarak Convokes Consultative, Legislative Bodies

NC292210 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The president of the republic has issued a decree convoking a session of the Consultative Council on Tuesday, 1 November 1983, at 1100 to open its fourth normal session. His excellency has also issued a presidential decree convoking the People's Assembly on Saturday, 5 November, at 1700 to open the fifth normal session of the third legislative term. In addition, his excellency has issued a presidential decree inviting the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council to a joint session on Sunday, 6 November, at 1100.

Consultative Council Members Named

NC301927 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] President Husni Mubarak today issued a republican decree listing the names of the appointed Consultative Council members to replace those whose membership expired. These members are: Ibrahim 'Ali Sa'dah, Ahmad Ahmad al-'Amawi, Dr Ahmad Hasan al-Baquri, Dr Ahmad Salamah Muhammad Salamah, Dr Ahmad Mahmud 'Umar, Dr Al-Ahmadi Abu an-Nur, Dr as-Sayyid 'Ali as-Sayyid, Al-Ma'mun Salih Mashali, Dr Angel Butrus, Anis Mansur, Taqfiq al-Hakim, Engineer Husayn Ahmad 'Uthman, Dr Halim Tawfiq Ishaq, Riyad Mu'awwad Asnasyus, Dr Sulayman Muhammad at-Tamawi, Sabri Abu al-Majd, Salah ad-Din Mahmud ar-Rifa'i, Dr 'Adil 'Abd al-Majid 'Izz, Dr 'Atif Muhammad Najib Sidqi, Dr 'Abd al-Ahad Jamal ad-Din, 'Abd ar-Rahman ash-Sharqawi, Dr 'Abd ar-Raziq Rizq Hasan, 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid ar-Rakhawi, Fahmi Nashid 'Abd al-Masih, Qadri 'Uthman Badr, Counselor Muhammad Rif'at 'Abd al-Hakim 'Abd al-Hadi, Muhammad 'Abd al-Fattah Ibrahim, Dr 'Abd al-Fattah al-Qassas, Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, Counselor Muhammad Fu'ad ar-Rashidi, Muhammad Murad as-Sittafi, Dr Mahmud Muhammad Mahfuz, Musa Sabri, Dr Muhammad Mahmud Radwan, and 'Umar 'Izz ad-Din Abu Stayt.

General Command Issues Communiques 1,262-1,264

Communique No 1,262

JN281833 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,262 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

While they are continuing their heroic fighting against the aggressor Iranian forces, the sons of our valiant Army confirm their great ability to defend lofty Iraq's sovereignty and the glorious Arab nation's future and to teach the covetous enemies lessons in courage and intrepidness. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units sighted several enemy troop concentrations and military hardware opposite their positions in the northern sector of the battlefield. Our units engaged them with all types of weapons, killing 56 and wounding many. They also destroyed two vehicles, one of which was carrying personnel who were killed; several weapons; and various types of military hardware. In another area of the same sector, two enemy patrols tried to approach our forward units' positions. Our units pounded them with their weapons, inflicting losses of life and equipment on the enemy and forcing those who remained to flee.

The losses the defeated Iranian forces sustained in their abortive offensive against our valiant units on the night of 25-26 October 1983 amount to 4,664 killed, large numbers of wounded, and more weapons and military hardware destroyed — all in addition to what was mentioned in our Communique No 1,261 issued yesterday.

2. Our daring helicopters carried out many successful combat missions today against enemy positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits. Our helicopters inflicted losses in life and equipment on the enemy; those which have been counted so far are: the destruction of five vehicles carrying personnel and weapons, five enemy troop concentrations, one hardware stockpile; and quantities of weapons and military hardware of various types. Flames and columns of smoke were seen billowing from the hit and damaged enemy positions and military hardware. All of our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Our forward units used all types of weapons to pound an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions in the central sector of the battlefield; two were killed, and two infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants were wounded.

4. One infantry position east of Basra was destroyed, and its occupants were killed.

5. Immersed in rancor and crime, the Khomeyniite clique today resumed its artillery shelling of Basra, Mandali, and its suburbs, Sayyid Sadiq, and (Shandri). As a result of the barbaric shelling, three civilians, including two women, were martyred; seven others, including three women, were wounded; one house was demolished; and several orchards in Basra were set on fire. The enemy shelling also damaged several civilian installations in Mandali, Sayyid Sadiq, and (Shandri).

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 October 1983

Communique No 1,263

JN291735 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,263 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 29 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compasisonate.

Our valiant Armed Forces will remain the watchful guard and the impregnable fortress at the eastern gate of the Arab homeland, defending Iraq against the attempts of the Iranian ruling clique of evil, expansion, and aggression. The results of the war actions for last night and today are as follows:

1. Last night one of our combat patrol units clashed with an enemy force opposite our units' forward positions in the area east of Basra, inflicting a number of casualties. Our unit destroyed two hardware stockpiles and two infantry positions and killed those manning them. In another area east of Basra, our forward units used various weapons to pound an enemy concentration opposite our positions, killing 13 and destroying 1 vehicle and 2 hardware stockpiles.

2. Sighting an enemy concentration opposite their forward positions in the central sector of the front, our forces opened fire, killing 12 and destroying 3 infantry positions.

3. Our forward units in the Maysan sector used various weapons to open fire on an enemy concentration opposite their positions, killing four and destroying one observation post.

4. The criminal Khomeyniite clique today shelled Mandali and its environs as well as the Khurmal township with artillery. One civilian was wounded in Mandali and a number of civilian establishments were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 October 1983

Communique No 1,264

JN301717 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,264 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With constant readiness to confront the criminal enemy and fight its aggressor forces, our valiant forces continue their activities in the operational sectors. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our valiant units pounded the enemy positions and concentrations opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing 65, wounding others, and destroying 2 155-mm guns, 4 vehicles — 3 of which were carrying personnel — 1 hardware stockpile, and 1 infantry position. Fresh numbers of Iranian military men, fleeing the terrorism of vicious Khomeyni and the persecution of his suspect regime, sought refuge with our forward units elsewhere in the same sector. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

2. Today our daring helicopter gunships carried out violent raids against the enemy positions, troop concentrations, and vehicles opposite our positions east of Basra, scoring effective hits and setting fire to enemy positions, weapons, and equipment.

4. Today the spiteful Khomeyniite clique shelled Mandali and Sayyid Sadiq and their suburbs with artillery. The savage enemy shelling demolished one house and wounded one female citizen in Sayyid Sadiq, and damaged some civilian establishments in Mandali.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 October 1983

Commander Says Iran Fails To Reach Objectives

JN281104 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Oct (INA) — The commander of the I Army Corps has asserted that the Iranian forces have failed during the battles of the past 8 days in the northern sector of the battlefield to achieve their objective aimed at creating a deep gap in the Iraqi forces' ranks and moving inside Iraqi territories.

In a press statement published here today, the Iraqi commander explained that what really happened was that most of the attacking Iranian forces were destroyed and their torn bodies scattered in the hills and valleys. He said that the Iranian forces sustained about 30,000 dead soldiers and a great number of wounded.

The Iraqi commander warned Iran's rulers against launching a new assault against Iraqi territory. He said that Iraq will use effective weapons, and they know the losses they will inflict on their ranks if they launch any new aggressive action.

The Iraqi commander explained that the big losses inflicted on the Iranian forces have forced them to close the main roads to the depths of Iran to evacuate the great number of dead and wounded soldiers.

The commander of the I Army Corps said that the last battles were unlike the previous ones because great destruction was inflicted on the aggressive forces in exchange for very few Iraqi losses. He pointed out that the Kurdish volunteers assumed a leading role in supporting the Iraqi forces and retaliating against and fighting the aggressive forces. During the battles of the last 8 days Iraqi forces gained additional experience in the field of the military combat capabilities in the mountain area and were granted the opportunity to be acquainted with fighting the enemy in this area of different mountains and scattered hills which can be isolated, besieged, and infiltrated.

RCC Vice Chairman Flays Iran's 'Aggression'

JN291246 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1050 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 29 Oct (INA) — RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim opened the seventh congress of the General Federation of Cooperative Peasant Societies here this morning. He said in an opening speech that the evil objectives of the criminal Iranian aggression had been foiled and that the aggressors sustained fatal blows on the hills and mountains of great Iraq — blows similar to the ones previously sustained east of Basra, Maysan, Mandali, and Haj 'Umra.

The RCC vice chairman added that the international community should assume a large responsibility with regard to the Iranian aggression against Iraq by adopting firm stands to deter the aggressor, isolate him internationally, and condemn him in a manner which upholds the principles of international justice, protects this region from the dangers resulting from interference, and puts an end to every Iranian sabotage attempt.

He stressed that the Iranian regime's insistence on continuing aggression despite Iraq's stands and readiness to solve differences peacefully is only an expression of this regime's expansionist intentions and wretched ambitions against Iraq and the Arab nation. He said that victory will continue to be the lot of the Iraqis while defeat and disappointment will continue to be the destiny of the aggressors no matter how long the war drags on.

Envoy Returns From San'a', Makes Statement

JN291703 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Ahmad Husayn, minister of youth and President Saddam Husayn's envoy to YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, returned to Baghdad yesterday. The minister said that he delivered a message to President Salih from President Saddam Husayn dealing with the promotion of bilateral relations and the explanation of the Iraqi-Iranian war developments and the current Arab situation. He added that President Salih reaffirmed the support of the YAR Government and people for Iraq in its just, defensive war against the expansionist Iranian aggression, expressing his pride in the heroic epics the Iraqi Army has recorded in defending the Arab nation, its sovereignty and honor.

The minister pointed out that a review was made during the visit of the Iraqi-YAR joint endeavors to stop the current Arab state of collapse in order to reach a unified Arab position for confronting the serious challenges facing the Arab nation in terms of both the Palestinian cause and the Iranian regime's war of aggression against Iraq.

Tariq 'Aziz Confers With Japanese Official

JN301445 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Oct (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has received a written message from Shintaro Abe, Japanese minister of foreign affairs. Toshijiro Nakajima, Japanese deputy minister of foreign affairs,

delivered the message to 'Aziz during a meeting they held this afternoon. They also discussed cordial bilateral relations, the means of promoting them, and issues concerning the continuation of the Iranian aggression against Iraq.

Muhammad Sa'id as-Sahhaf, acting Iraqi foreign minister; Masamichi Hanabusa, deputy director of the Middle East and African desk at the Japanese Foreign Ministry; and the Japanese ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Norwegian Commerce Minister Arrives on Visit

JN301241 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Oct (INA) — Asbjorn Haugstvedt, Norwegian minister of commerce and shipping [title as received], arrived here last night to head his country's delegation to the third session of the Joint Iraqi-Norwegian Committee on Economic, Trade, and Industrial Cooperation scheduled to begin later today.

The preliminary meetings of the Joint Iraqi-Norwegian Committee began the day before yesterday under the chairmanship of the deputy chairmen of the committee during which the provisions of the minutes for the past session were reviewed as well as what had been achieved. The committee also discussed the topics to be discussed by the current session on economic, industrial, trade cooperation, petrochemical industries, transport, and construction.

Received by 'Ali

JN301337 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1240 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Oct (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and minister of trade, has met with Asbjorn Haugstvedt, Norwegian minister of commerce and shipping and his accompanying delegation.

The two sides discussed the development of bilateral economic and trade relations and exchanged viewpoints on the main topics discussed by the third session of the joint Iraqi-Norwegian Committee on Economic, Trade, and Technical Cooperation, currently meeting here.

Vice President Opens European-Arab Symposium

JN291934 Baghdad INA in English 1620 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 29, INA — Iraq called today upon Europe to go ahead and develop an initiative of her own to find a solution to the Palestinian question, taking into consideration Europe's historical relations with the Arabs and joint future interests.

Iraq Vice-President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, in an opening speech of the symposium on Euro-Arab parliamentary dialogue, said "We hope that our European friends would exercise further pressure so that the EEC governments and other European countries would take a more just and enquitable stand vis-a-vis the rights of the Palestinian people."

On the three-year-old Iraq-Iran war, Ma'ruf said "We are fully aware that the parliamentarians of Europe shoulder a special responsibility towards the cause of ultimate and just peace between Iraq and Iran."

"The European Parliament is able to exert effective efforts, on government and public levels, to support peaceful efforts and initiatives, to exert pressure, in this effect on the Iranian regime, to halt dealing with this regime as long as it ignores the dignified plea for peace made by Iraq and all international and regional fora and circles," Ma'ruf said.

He said "The Zionist occupation of Lebanon" was threatening and contriving for the partitioning of Lebanon through "the direct and unlimited support of the United States of America, which imposed on Lebanon an agreement that infringes upon Lebanon's national sovereignty (an agreement that is considered to be null and void due to the continuity of the enemey's occupation of Lebanon), and that runs contrary to the UN Security Council Resolutions No. 508 and No. 509 on the unconditional withdrawal of Zionist troops."

Iraq would pledge support for the Palestinian revolution and its legitimate leadership to realise the objectives of the Arab Palestinian people, including the right to return to their homeland, self-determination and to establish their independent state, he said.

Iraqi vice-president called for the revival of the spirit of detente which had emerged during the 1975 Helsinki Conference on European Co-operation and Security.

Ma'ruf said the Arabs want to establish with the Europeans "A comprehensive, unconditional and unrestricted co-operation that serves the mutual interests of our people, far from the measures and calculations of colonialism and monopolies."

The symposium, besides Arab parliamentarians, is attended by representatives of European parliaments from Belgium, France, West Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain and United Kingdom, as well as representatives from the European Parliament and Council of Europe.

They will discuss, during two days, a report by the secretaries general of the Arab Inter-parliamentary Union and the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation, promoting the European and Arab roles in the activities directed to the establishment of peace in the Middle East, joint action for the protection of human rights in the occupied Arab territories and Euro-Arab co-operation with the Third World in the field of development.

AR-RA'Y Reacts to Reagan's Peace Statement

JN300819 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 30 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Escalation of Peace Process," *Ar-Ra'y comments on the U.S. President's recent speech. It says:* In light of what Reagan said, the following questions arise:

1. Is the promise of revenge part of the escalation of the peace efforts expressed by Reagan?

2. What benefit is the U.S. Administration's main objective — to attain a comprehensive peace in the region, as long as this administration is still unable to force Israel to abandon its settlement policy, and acknowledge the Palestinian people's right to self-determination? In other words, an objective that is not viable if it cannot be implemented?

3. Since the U.S. Administration admits that the region is the key to the political and economic life of the Western countries, why is it determined to tackle the problem separately? Why does this administration not hasten to achieve peace in the region by agreeing to an international conference in which the European Community will participate?

4. Since the U.S. Administration realizes that the region refuses to be under the U.S. or any other foreign imbrella, why is it warning that the region will fall into the hands of the forces which are described as hostile to the free world? Does this warning not ignore the fact that the Israeli aggression, which represents the danger threatening this region, puts the interests of the Western countries and the United States in the region at risk?

5. Where are the so-called best methods provided by the Reagan plan to achieve peace in the region? Are these methods represented by the continuation of U.S. economic, military, and political support for Israel after it rejected the Reagan plan the moment it was declared? Of what benefit is the call for a just solution to the Palestine cause while U.S. practices encourage Israel to reject this solution? Does this strengthen confidence in U.S. credibility?

Ar-Ra'y concludes: These questions are a real expression of the reaction on the Arab level to President Reagan's recent speech. This reaction, undoubtedly, represents the big gap between U.S. credibility and U.S. practices. This gap is created by the U.S. Administration and can only be narrowed by practices which will regain confidence in U.S. credibility. But U.S. credibility has failed all the tests it has faced so far.

King Husayn, Badran Discuss Regional Developments

JN292147 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and Crown Prince Hasan paid a visit to the prime minister's office this morning where they met for some time with Prime Minister Mudar Badran. They discussed the latest developments in the region.

Circulation of Egyptian Newspapers Allowed

WA281131 Rabat L'Opinion in French 14 Oct 83 p 10

[Text] The Jordanian Government gave its consent Tuesday to the distribution of Egyptian political newspapers for the first time since the signing of the Camp David accords in September 1978 by former Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat.

Papers Call for Egypt's Return to Arab Ranks

AR-RA'Y Editorial

JN281010 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 28 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] *Ar-Ra'y* says: The Arab arena is currently witnessing an active Egyptian move. This Egyptian move comes at the time when the foreign ministers of the countries [participating in the Multinational Force] have held a meeting in Paris and announced that the Multinational Force will remain in Lebanon. This Egyptian move also comes when many questions are being asked about the eventualities which the region may face in the future.

The topics which were discussed during the talks between His Majesty King Husayn and the Jordanian delegation on the one hand and Kamal Hasan 'Ali on the other once again asserted Jordan's concern over establishing unified Arab ranks to face the challenges threatening the Arabs in the region, whether they are in Iraq, the occupied Palestine territory, or Lebanon. These topics also asserted Jordan's firm commitments practiced under all circumstances in the Arab arena. At the same time, these topics, which represent the crux of the Egyptian activity, have shown the significance manifested in the following:

1. Ensuring the Arab countries which are engaged in dialogue with Egypt and informing those which are not talking to it of the fact that Egypt places its weight in the Arab balance, despite frozen diplomatic relations with most of the Arab countries. The unity of the Arab destiny remains under all circumstances more important than all formalities. This significance is explained by Egypt's support for Iraq, which is known to all.

2. Informing the non-Arab countries — the friendly ones and those which have ambitions — of the fact that Egypt's commitments toward the Arab nation are constant and have no room for doubts, because Egypt is part of this nation and cannot be separated from its fold.

Hence, Egypt has not waited for an invitation and has not set conditions to ensure all of its Arab commitments at the time when predictions are disseminated on eventualities that will take palce in the region. Since this is Egypt's stand toward the Arabs, the question is what the Arabs' stand toward Egypt is. Would it not be better for the Arabs to accept Egypt's hand extended to them at the difficult times? Is it not their duty to open the doors for its official return to the Arab arena after it has proved that it has not abandoned its pan-Arab commitments?

It is time the Arabs should establish the aspired solidarity, and in which Egypt must assume its position. The Arabs certainly will not argue the fact that solidarity without Egypt is mere imagination.

JORDAN TIMES Editorial

JN301108 Amman Jordan Times in English 30 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Prove the Israelis Wrong"]

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan 'Ali's short visit to Jordan last Thursday may have not in itself been the right occasion for the Arab World to restore its severed ties with Egypt, but it definitely is a step in the right direction.

Egypt, as far as most Arabs are concerned, did not do the right thing when it signed its separate peace treaty with Israel. But Egypt of today is not exactly that of President Anwar as-Sadat either.

President Husni Mubarak, at whose initiative Mr. 'Ali's visit here and to Iraq a day earlier came, said time and again that Egypt's Arabism could never be in question. An he and his government have been giving ample proof of what they mean. This is why the time is now ripe to think more seriously of bringing Egypt back into the Arab fold, to shoulder its national and pan-Arab responsibilities with the rest of us.

The return of Egypt to where it belongs is fulfilling in itself, but more is actually needed to make Egypt's reunion with the Arabs a happy one. Nobody says the process is going to be easy or problem-free, for the obstacles in the face of a pan-Arab reconciliation — even on a wider scale — are indeed numerous.

It is both wrong and unrealistic to ask Egypt to give up Sinai for the Israeli occupiers once again, or deal with the Cairo government as a pariah or unrepresentative, as certain Arab regimes like to think. It is equally wrong and unrealistic for Egypt to think that the return of its occupied territories is the best it could achieve in the way of strengthening the struggle for Arab and Palestinian rights now usurped by Israel. There is ground in the middle, however, on which Egypt and the Arab World could and should meet to press ahead jointly in the quest to regain the lost rights, in Palestine and elsewhere.

It is here, on the middle ground, that Jordan, Iraq and Egypt should be able to make the most contribution. And it is to this end that we are hoping the Egyptian foreign minister's visit contributed.

If Israel did think that it could rob the Arabs of Egypt, then it must be one of the Arabs' top priorities to prove the Israelis wrong.

Injured Envoy to India Returns Home 28 Oct

JN281637 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn welcomed at Amman airport this afternoon Jordanian Ambassador to India Muhammad 'Ali Khurma, who was subjected to a treacherous attack on Tuesday. Also present at the airport were His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, the foreign minister, senior officials of the ministry, and the ambassador's family.

After his majesty was reassured of the ambassador's health, he was transferred to Al-Husayn Medical Center to receive further treatment. The ambassador was accompanied by the Jordanian medical team that was sent to India to supervise his treatment.

Arab League's Klibi To Visit Jordan, Syria, Iraq

JN310952 Amman Ar-Ra'y in Arabic 31 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Amman — *Ar-Ra'y* — Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, will arrive in Amman on Thursday on a visit to Jordan within a tour that will also take him to Syria and Iraq. Klibi will meet with a number of senior Jordanian officials to discuss issues related to holding the Arab summit conference in a suitable atmosphere.

British State Minister To Visit Shortly

JN310942 Amman Ar-Ra'y in Arabic 31 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Amman — *Ar-Ra'y* has learned that the British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs will pay a visit to Jordan later this week. He will meet with a number of senior Jordanian officials to discuss current Middle East issues and exchange views on them.

President, Others in Switzerland for Conference

Al-Jumayyil Leaves for Bern

NC291554 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil will arrive in Bern shortly to begin an official 24-hour visit to Switzerland at the invitation of Swiss President Pierre Aubert. President al-Jumayyil will return to Geneva after this visit to preside over the National Dialogue Conference, which will be held there.

President al-Jumayyil arrived in Geneva at 1540 today on board a Lebanese plane. On his arrival, the Lebanese president made a statement to newsmen in which he thanked the Swiss president and the Swiss people for hosting the Dialogue Conference. He said that this visit which will last for 2 days, is in response to an official invitation from President Aubert.

After his statement to newsmen, President Al-Jumayyil left for Bern amid strict security measures.

Al-Jumayyil, Aubert Hold Talks

NC292208 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The second phase of President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's activities in Bern today included the first round of talks and then the exchange of speeches at a formal dinner banquet. At 1900 today, Swiss President Pierre Aubert arrived at the (Loune) guest palace, where he was welcomed by President al-Jumayyil.

They entered the grand hall where President al-Jumayyil presented the members of the delegation and the radio team accompanying him to President Aubert . After a brief rest, the Swiss delegation joined the meeting. The first session of the Lebanese-Swiss talks then began.

Official sources at (Loune) palace said that this round of talks took place in an excellent, cordial, and comfortable atmosphere. This plenary round was followed by a second tete-a-tete meeting between Presidents al-Jumayyil and Aubert which lasted more than 1 hour.

After this meeting, all moved to the dinner banquet which the Swiss president held in honor of the Lebanese president and his delegation. During the banquet, toasts were exchanged and speeches were delivered, focusing on Lebanese-Swiss relations.

President Aubert wished President al-Jumayyil success at the dialogue conference and expressed the hope that this conference will produce the desired results.

At 2300 today — that is now — Lebanese Ambassador Johnny 'Abduh and (Michel Pass), the official spokesman of President Aubert will hold a news conference in the (Belgique) Hotel in which they will talk about the results of the first round of talks between the Lebanese and Swiss presidents which was held this evening.

Joint News Conference Held

NC300753 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Dispatch from Bern by Information Ministry mission accompanying President al-Jumayyil — recorded]

[Excerpts] The second and last day of the official visit of President Amin al-Jumayyil to Switzerland at the invitation of Swiss President Pierre Aubert will begin soon. President al-Jumayyil will today hold a series of meetings with Swiss officials at the (Loune) guest palace. In the afternoon, President al-Jumayyil will hold a third round of discussions with Swiss President Pierre Aubert at the (Loune) palace during a reception which the Lebanese president will host in honor of the Swiss president. The official visit will end tomorrow, Monday, in the morning when President al-Jumayyil will go to Geneva to chair the meetings of the National Dialogue Committee. These meetings will be held at the Intercontinental Hotel and will start tomorrow afternoon.

President al-Jumayyil yesterday officially invited President Aubert to attend one of the sessions of the National Dialogue Conference tomorrow or Tuesday. He also invited the Swiss president to visit Lebanon. The Swiss president accepted both invitations and promised to respond. President Aubert will go to Geneva in the next 24 hours to respond to the first invitation. No official date has yet been fixed in response to the second invitation pending more contacts.

Johnny 'Abduh, the Lebanese ambassador to Switzerland, announced President Amin al-Jumayyil's invitations to President Aubert during a news conference held at midnight, Bern time, last night. (Michel Pass), the official spokesman of the Swiss president, participated in this conference which was held at the Reporters Hall of the (Belgique) Hotel. He commented on the atmosphere which prevailed during the discussions between Presidents al-Jumayyil and Aubert, both the private discussions and those whichincluded members of both delegations.

Ambassador 'Abduh said at the conference that the meetings of the National Dialogue Committee will begin tomorrow, Monday in the afternoon, and that Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam might represent his country at these meetings. Saudi Arabia will be represented by its new ambassador in Beirut. He might be joined on Thursday by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

The following are the proceedings of the joint news conference held by (Pass), the official spokesman of President Aubert, and Lebanese Ambassador Johnny 'Abduh, and the questions and answers which followed.

At the start of the conference, the spokesman of the Swiss head of state (Michel Pass) said: Presidents Aubert and al-Jumayyil held a private meeting this evening which lasted 1 hour and 20 minutes. They reviewed the problems pertaining to the Middle East and especially the situation in Lebanon. In the meantime, the Lebanese delegation led by the foreign minister and the Swiss delegation led by the secretary of state reviewed the bilateral relations and current issues in Lebanon. I believe that the Lebanese ambassador is now ready to answer your questions.

Ambassador Johny 'Abduh said: I would like to announce that His Excellency President al-Jumayyil has invited His Excellency President Aubert to attend the opening of the Lebanese Dialogue Conference to wish the participants success in their activities and in reaching positive results. President Aubert has agreed to this invitation and he might respond on Tuesday.

(Pass) then spoke again, saying that President Aubert has responded very positively to this invitation. He added: During the dinner banquet which was held at the guest palace tonight, President Aubert said that it is one of Switzerland's traditions to be ready to offer its good offices and mediation if asked to do so by the disputing sides. During the meeting, which continued from 1900 to 2300 last night, we noticed a development in the relations between the two presidents who had not met before. The atmosphere was warm, particularly during the two presidents' private meeting. He further said: The Lebanese president expressed his joy and satisfaction over his stay in Switzerland and his great hopes, particularly regarding the cherished results of the Dialogue Conference that will open in Geneva next week. He hoped that the spirit of peace, freedom, and democracy which characterizes Switzerland will also characterize the atmosphere of the confernece. He also hoped for the rebirth of Lebanon and referred to this conference as the conference of hope.

At this point, Ambassador 'Abduh answered newsmen's questions as follows:

'Abduh was asked: Does what you said mean that the conference will start on Tuesday? He answered: The conference will be opened Monday afternoon. I believe that the invitation addressed to President Aubert mentioned Monday or Tuesday. This depends on certain circumstances and President Aubert is waiting for a telephone call from President al-Jumayyil confirming the date.

The ambassador was then told: There has been much talk about the possibility of holding a meeting between President al-Jumayyil and Walid Junblatt before the convocation of the conference. He answered: I have no knowledge of this.

The ambassador was asked: Will President al-Jumayyil attend all conference sessions? He answered: He will definitely chair all the sessions.

'Abduh was then asked: Has Switzerland been invited to perform a role during the Dialogue Conference? He answered: In view of the fact that Switzerland is a friendly country, very close to Lebanon, it is invited to perform a role, when the need arises, to solve the entire Lebanese question.

The ambassador was asked: Is there an agenda for the conference? He answered: What I know is that His Excellency President al-Jumayyil is open to all demands raised to solve the current problems. He will accept anything that might be raised for discussion at the dialogue table.

'Abduh was then asked: Have you found a solution to the question of the shape of the dialogue table? He answered: I do not wish to create a problem which is basically nonexistent. I do not believe that Junblatt has raised this issue.

The ambassador was asked: How long, in your opinion, will President al-Jumayyil spend in Geneva? He answered: For the duration of the conference. He was then asked: How long exactly? He answered: I can say for a minimum of 4 days and 1 week at the most. This is a personal estimate.

'Abduh was then asked: Can we attach any importance to the fact that the reconciliation conference has been turned into a Dialogue Conference? He answered: I do not know who called it a reconciliation conference. It is, as has been announced, a Dialogue Conference.

The ambassador was then told: You have denied reports that President al-Jumayyil would meet Junblatt 'tomorrow,' Sunday; that is, today. He answered: I have not denied anything, but I have said that I have no knowledge of this matter.

'Abduh was further asked: Do you believe that President al-Jumayyil will meet with anybody 'tomorrow,' Sunday; that is, today? He answered: I have no knowledge of this, but I believe that the president does not object to a meeting with any of the participants in the conference, and particularly with Junblatt.

The ambassador was then asked: What about the itinerary of President al-Jumayyil today, Sunday?

(Pass) intervened here to say: I believe that Presidents Aubert and al-Jumayyil will meet at approximately 1800 this evening.

Ambassador 'Abduh was asked: President al-Jumayyil has addressed another invitation to President Aubert; when will he respond? He answered: Yes, President al-Jumayyil has invited President Aubert to visit Lebanon. It is an open invitation which President Aubert has accepted and he will fix the date.

'Abduh was asked: Will President al-Jumayyil meet with the Saudi and Syrian envoys? He answered: Yes. The president is ready to meet with anyone to secure the success of the conference and settle the Lebanese question.

The ambassador was told: It was stated yesterday that President al-Jumayyil intended to visit Damascus and Saudi Arabia, but that the visit has been postponed. He answered: I have no knowledge of this and this is your own information.

'Abduh was then asked: If the conference does not succeed within 7 days, do you have another plan? He answered: Why did you fix a time of 7 days. I gave a personal estimate because I am more optimistic than you are. I personally say that matters will progress well. If the conference needs 2 or 3 more days, then President al-Jumayyil will extend his stay in Geneva to solve the problems.

The ambassador was asked: What can a 7-day conference be expected to do to solve a many years' old problem? He answered: The problem is not one among Lebanese. I believe that the conference will be held and it will open the doors to the solution of the crisis. However, believe me when I say that there is no problem among the Lebanese. If we, the Lebanese, meet around a table, this does not mean that our country is not occupied by the Israelis, Syrians, and Palestinians. Do you

believe that these three occupations have no connection with the Lebanese crisis? As Lebanese, we will not be an obstacle in the way of holding this conference.

The ambassador was asked: Do you believe that 7 days are sufficient to find a solution? He answered: Yes, and 4 days also are sufficient to solve the problem among the Lebanese. This is a long period.

Ambassador 'Abduh was asked: Has President al-Jumayyil changed his opinion after what he said to *The New York Times* magazine? He answered: President al-Jumayyil has not changed his opinion. Perhaps, you have not understood what the president said. I ask you to read again President al-Jumayyil's interview with *The New York Times*.

'Abduh was asked: Will the conference open on Monday or Tuesday? He answered: Undoubtedly on Monday between 1700 and 1800 in the evening.

The ambassador was asked: What is your opinion on Walid Junblatt's statement that President al-Jumayyil is the man of the United States and that he, Junblatt, will become Syria's man? He answered: President al-Jumayyil is the man of Lebanon only. I believe that Junblatt cannot become the man of Syria.

'Abduh was finally asked: Will 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam attend the Dialogue's Conference as Syria's delegate? He answered: So far, I believe he will.

Salim News Conference

NC302025 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] At a news conference he held at the press club in Bern, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim expressed his hope that the National Dialogue Conference, which will begin in Geneva tomorrow, will put an end to the Lebanese crisis. Minister Salim emphasized that the war in Lebanon was not a civil one and that those who described it as such erred in their description and assessment. He said that Lebanon paid dearly for adhering to democracy.

Minister Salim confirmed the presence in Switzerland of Robert McFarlane, U.S. President Reagan's adviser on national security affairs.

Further Report

NC302130 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim has stated that the real problem Lebanon is facing is that of ousting the Israeli forces from Lebanon and of persuading Syria and the Palestinians to withdraw their forces so that the Lebanese will have the opportunity to deal with their disputes and determine their fate like other people.

Minister Salim told journalists in Bern tonight that the conflict that erupted in Lebanon beginning in 1975 has been a regional crisis, which was caused and fueled by the lack of stability in the Middle East. He added that in 8 years Lebanon paid an exorbitant price because it is a democratic, free, and unique country. He said that the Lebanese are now more than any time in the past united behind the government to disengage the Lebanese crisis from the area's crisis. He said that there is agreement in general on the basic issues. He expressed his confidence that the conferees will agree if others leave them alone.

Salim Answers Reporters Questions

NC302255 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2145 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Excerpt] During his news conference in Bern tonight, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim answered questions from journalists.

Responding to a question, Minister Salim said: We expect the Dialogue Conference to open at 1700 tomorrow. It is also expected that Swiss Federation President Aubert will deliver a welcome speech and place himself at the service of the conference. He added: President al-Jumayyil will deliver the opening speech before President Aubert's speech. The conferees will then discuss the possibility of either commencing talks, postponing the session until Tuesday, or confining the opening session to speeches.

When asked if the members of the delegations will deliver speeches at the opening session, Dr Salim said: I believe that every participant in the conference will deliver a speech and later all participants will move to discussing the basic issues. There is the agenda which has been laid down by the Preparatory Committee. Every participant will be asked if he would like to add anything to the projected agenda. Asked about the duration of the conference, Minister Salim said that it is difficult to be specific. This, he added, can be defined during the first 2 days of the conference. He said: We hope that the conference will not last long because President al-Jumayyil has to return home to shoulder his responsibilities. Should the participants approve the agenda, subcommittees would be formed to discuss the proposed topics, and then an agreement would be reached to hold another meeting that could perhaps be held in Beirut.

Minister Salim was asked: How do you envisage the atmosphere that will prevail at the negotiating table, particularly since there are longstanding and chronic feuds among the participants? He answered: This is true. There are differences but these have been exaggerated. However, on the other hand, there is a strong Lebanese consensus about the principal issues. I believe there are no major differences with regard to ending the crisis among the participants. The main issue lies in the presence of the foreign forces which intervened and which made an impact on Lebanon. If the foreign forces allow the Lebanese to rearrange their domestic situation, it would be an opportunity that should be immediately exploited by Lebanon. We can agree on the domestic issues. President al-Jumayyil is open to all proposals and reforms that might be presented. Numerous reforms are needed, and President al-Jumayyil is eager to bring about all these reforms.

Responding to a question, Minister Salim said: "I expect that the 17 May agreement between Lebanon and Israel will be presented to the negotiating table." He added: "The agreement was the best thing possible to get Israel to vacate Lebanon. The question that poses itself today is: How can we evict [ikhraj] the Syrians within the context of this agreement? We hope that the United States will continue its endeavors between Israel and Syria in the hope that it will persuade the two sides to withdraw from Lebanon. We consider the agreement frozen for the time being, since it has not yet been officially ratified. Therefore, for Syria and Lebanon to present this topic is futile. I believe that the only way is to consider this agreement frozen, and to discuss with Syria the means of its withdrawal from Lebanon. We will be very pleased should anyone present ways to bring about the withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian forces from Lebanon.

High-Ranking Soviet Arrives

NC301255 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Information received by the Voice of Lebanon indicates that a high-ranking Soviet personality has arrived in Geneva. The information links this visit with the presence of U.S. Ambassador Richard Fairbanks in Switzerland in order to be close to the Lebanese [National] Dialogue Conference. It is not by chance that politicians from the United States, the Soviet Union, Egypt, in the person of Salah Zaki, and observers from Syria and Saudi Arabia should arrive in Switzerland. The information further indicates that there is a U.S.-Soviet agreement to bring about the success of the Lebanese [National] Dialogue Conference in Switzerland.

Israel's Kimche in Geneva

NC302000 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Dispatch by Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Bern, Switzerland — live]

[Text] A short time ago, Swiss television here in Bern announced that Swiss Federation President Pierre Aubert will attend the opening session of the National Dialogue Conference which will convene its first meeting at 1600 Geneva time, 1700 Beirut time, tomorrow, Monday. It is known that this session and the sessions that will follow it will be held at the Inter-Continental Hotel in Geneva.

Another new development is Syrian foreign minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's arrival at Geneva airport a short time ago to participate in the National Dialogue Conference as an observer for Syria. Minister Khaddam's arrival in Geneva is in response to the invitation which President al-Jumayyil extended during the telephone contact between him and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad 3 days ago. President al-Jumayyil asked President al-Asad to send a delegate to attend the sessions of the National Dialogue Conference.

It is known that Saudi Arabia has sent Minister of State Muhammad Mas'ud to participate in the sessions as an observer for Saudi Arabia. Muhammad Mas'ud is accompanied by new Saudi ambassador in Beirut Ahmad al-Kuhaymi.

We also point out that Robert McFarlane, U.S. presidential adviser on national security affairs, is now in Geneva. This was announced by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim at a press conference he held in Bern a short time ago. Salim is at this hour talking to the reporters at the national press club at the (Belgique) hotel in Bern.

It has been reiterated that a Soviet personality has also arrived in Geneva, probably to follow up what is taking place with regard to the National Dialogue Conference.

According to other information, which we have not yet been able to confirm, David Kimche, secretary general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, is also in Geneva. We — the Information Ministry mission — have not been able to confirm this information which has been reiterated here in the Swiss capital.

We point out also that President al-Jumayyil is now meeting at the (Loune) guest palace with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim and the members of the delegation accompanying the president. They are expected to assess the results of the Lebanese-Swiss talks which ended this evening.

The Information Ministry mission will remain with you tonight and everyday to furnish you with the latest developments with regard to the National Dialogue Conference and President al-Jumayyil's contacts in Switzerland.

Arens Issues Warning

NC291426 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] In Jerusalem on the eve of the convocation of the [Lebanese National] Dialogue Conference in Geneva, Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens has determined that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement — which was endorsed by a sweeping majority in the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies and in the Israeli Knesset — constitutes the basis for all solutions in Lebanon.

Arens emphasized that Israel does not accept any violation of the 17 May agreement and considers every attempt to abrogate or change the agreement as detrimental to the requisites of Israel's security and Lebanon's security.

Karami, Junblatt Arrive in Geneva

NC281542 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] [Former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Walid Junblatt arrived in Geneva this afternoon on board a Boeing 727 aircraft to attend the National Dialogue Conference on Monday.

Geneva airport officials said that [former] President Sulayman

Franjiyah will arrive later this evening.

Prime Minister Karami said on arrival that he is satisfied with the atmosphere of friendship and peace which will help the conferees to reach a positive solution to the Middle East problems, particularly in Lebanon. Junblatt said that he hopes the conference will lead to peace in Lebanon.

Franjiyah, Junblatt Interviewed

NC300835 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] During an interview with Swiss television, the French channel (Suisse Romande), [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah expressed his hope that the National Dialogue Conference, which will start tomorrow, will realize the hopes the Lebanese have attached to it. He said: If the intentions become sincere, then everything can be realized.

Swiss television also broadcast an interview with Walid Junblatt who demanded a new constitution for Lebanon and the redistribution of powers. Junblatt called for the creation of a secular democratic state. He said he was not prepared to make any concessions, but added: I do not want to slam the door and I will give every possible opportunity to peace.

Junblatt 'Pessimistic' on Dialogue

JN300838 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, was interviewed by Swiss television yesterday. He spoke in detail about the reality and dimensions of the Lebanese national dialogue, defining his stands on the topics under discussions which are connected to Lebanon's future and its relations with its neighbors. Let us listen to Nabil Darwish:

Junblatt was pessimistic on the results of the Lebanese national dialogue. He said: Results will not be achieved in a short time. He added: I do not believe that the Phalange Party will offer any concessions. The first session will be one for the press after which the committees will meet for their arduous work.

Walid Junblatt vehemently attacked the Al-Jumayyil family, accusing it of setting up an oppressive and fascist regime in Lebanon which was saved at the last moment by the U.S. interference in Suq al-Gharb.

Junblatt said: If I have to choose between a regime which is supported by Washington or a free Lebanon I will remain Syria's man. As long as the choice is between a fascist regime and a free Lebanon, I will remain Syria's man.

On Israel and relations with it, Walid Junblatt believes that negotiations must be held for a new agreement between Lebanon and Israel that will secure Israel's northern borders. Junblatt also spoke about the constitutional reforms to be discussed by the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference. He said: These reforms must lead to ending the monopoly of the Al-Jumayyil family and the Phalangists over Lebanon. A redistribution of power must take place, a new election system must be enacted, and democratic reforms must be carried out. Junblatt added that what used to take place under the French mandate on Lebanon must no longer be taken into consideration.

Junblatt concluded by saying: When a new Lebanon is established where powers reflect the new demographic reality, then I will end the war and will no longer be Syria's man.

PSP Cables Conferees on 'Liberation' of Homeland

NC301403 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] During a meeting held today by the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] and attended by the party deputies, the discussions dealt with the [national] dialogue in that its principal objective should be the salvation and liberation of the homeland.

After the meeting, PSP Secretary General Amin Sa'd [as received] and PSP deputies 'Ali al-Abdallah, Hamid Dakrub, Anwar as-Sabbah, Munif al-Khatib, and Ra'if Samarah sent the following cable to the conferees:

In the name of the pan-Arab and national cause, in the name of the south, and in the name of human dignity, and the nation in Lebanon, we address the following to you:

Proceeding from the fact that the necessity of saving the homeland should take precedence over any other issue however important; on the basis of the fact that any reform in any homeland should necessarily presuppose the existence of this homeland; and since the Lebanese homeland is experiencing the crisis of existence due to the fact that it is under the yoke of occupation; it has become necessary for the Dialogue Conference to primarily tackle the liberation issue. Since the continued occupation of the south will inevitably lead to the liquidation of the national existence, the liberation of the south should be the principal objective on both the national and pan-Arab levels. Any dialogue that disregards this fact or sidesteps it and that does not define the serious and practical means to ensure the liberation of the south would lead to fulfilling the aims of the plot of liquidating Lebanon and the entire Arab issue.

Salvation Front's Working Paper 'Leaked'

NC302322 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2250 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Our information correspondents in Bern have told us that the National Salvation Front leaders along with Amal Movement leader lawyer Nabih Birri have approved their joint working paper. The meeting took place at President Sulayman Franjiyah's place of residence. The front's sources have leaked some of the proposals that are contained in the paper. The paper calls for an end to political sectarianism and for the election of the president of the republic through direct popular elections. The paper proposes that the responsibilities of some officials be limited, that some of the factions should have more effective participation in the government, and that a senate council should

be established in addition to the Chamber of Deputies.

The front's paper also proposes that the number of representatives in the Chamber of Deputies be increased to 120. Since it is difficult at this stage to hold parliamentary elections, the paper proposes that the new deputies be appointed by the conference or by a (?friendly) government should the conference produce positive results. The paper proposes that the Army should be free of sectarianism and that the Army commander's post should be cancelled and be replaced by the post of chief of staff. The front will also demand the cancellation of the 17 May agreement between Lebanon and Israel.

Junblatt, Arslan To Set Up 'Alayh Administration

NC300725 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Information received by Voice of Lebanon indicates that Walid Junblatt and Khawlah Junblatt Arslan have agreed to establish a local administration in 'Alayh to be administered by Khawlah. It has been learned that Shaykh Fadlallah Talhuq will be deputy administrator and Hafiz Jabir will be responsible for financial matters.

KUNA: Geneva Causes Al-Jumayyil To Delay Arab Tour

LD281725 Kuwait KUNA in English 1630 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Beirut, Oct 28 (KUNA) — Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil will delay his planned visit to four Arab capitals until after the proposed Geneva reconciliation conference, sources at the Presidential Palace said Friday. It had earlier been announced that Al-Jumayyil would visit Damascus, Amman, Riyadh and Rabat before heading for Switzerland, where talks are scheduled to begin Monday between leaders of the country's warring factions. But the source said that the tour would not take place until the talks were over, and would depend on the outcome of negotiations.

President Speaks to Al-Wazzan Before Departure

NC292018 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Before President al-Jumayyil left for Geneva today, a telephone conversation took place between him and Prime Minister al-Wazzan during which Prime Minister al-Wazzan expressed his wish for President al-Jumayyil to be successful in his historic mission. Prime Minister al-Wazzan expressed his great hope for this meeting out of his belief that the conferees will keep in mind all the suffering and ordeals of the Lebanese people and that the reasons for holding this conference will be an impetus for greater open-mindedness in their dialogue to end the ordeal.

Prime Minister Al-Wazzan affirmed that there is no country in the world that does not suffer from internal problems. He appealed to the conferees to establish basic principles to enable the Lebanese to proceed with cooperation and solidarity to establish a new Lebanon. He said that events have proven that no one can do work or make decisions on behalf of the Lebanese. What we have tried with our brothers, our friends, and the international institutions should convince everyone that only the national will can secure the welfare of the people of Lebanon. Anything else would be tantamount to an attempt by international interests to control our basic national interests.

Concluding, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: Genuine leadership today is measured by the degree of loyalty to the unity and salvation of the homeland.

Dialogue Delegates Make Statements Before Departure

Pierre al-Jumayyil on Guarantee

NC300843 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] This morning Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said before leaving that the attention of the Lebanese is fervently focused on Geneva and he is certain their representatives will not disappoint them in achieving the peace they are expecting. He expressed the belief that what is most important is to find the force that will guarantee the application of what is agreed on in Geneva. [He said:] If, God forbid, we do not agree — then the matter takes another turn, but I emphasize the need for a force that will apply the agreements.

Sa'ib Salam 'Openminded'

NC301105 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1027 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Excerpts] [Former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam and his accompanying delegation left Beirut for Geneva at 1000 this morning.

In a statement he made at the airport, Salam said: The eyes of the Lebanese and even of the world are today focused on the meeting of the National Dialogue Committee. Participating in this conference, I fully appreciate these hopes and carry with me the worries of the citizens everywhere in Lebanon, their ambitions and aspirations for the establishment of peace, and the rebuilding of a firm and united homeland. I believe that violence cannot resolve any issues in Lebanon. I am confident that the national accord is the only way to save Lebanon. I reassert today that we will be responsible for what is happening in our homeland if we do not tackle it under these historical circumstances. I go to Geneva today openminded toward the cherished dialogue. I hope that we all will achieve the Lebanese aspirations of ending the tragedy and ordeal which have affected every family and every home in every city and village. The dialogue is the starting point. We have a long road ahead which we hope to traverse with a united Lebanese will, full Arab support, and a helpful international atmosphere.

Pierre al-Jumayyil and his accompanying delegation have also left for Geneva. Sami Marun, chairman of the National Council for External Economic Relations, left Beirut at noon today to join the presidential delegation at the national dialogue meetings in Geneva.

Presidential Delegation Members Named

NC301319 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil has formed the delegation to accompany him to the National Dialogue Conference, which will start in Geneva tomorrow. The delegation comprises: Judge Joseph Ghuraysati, director general of the president's office; presidential advisers Dr Wadi' Haddad and Muhammad Shuqayr; Ambassador Latif Abu al-Husn; Dr Hafiz Qubaysi; and Ambassador Elizah 'Alam.

Syria's Khaddam Reportedly To Attend Talks

NC282131 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Meetings were held today at the Presidential Palace to put the final touches to the file which President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil will carry to Switzerland. President al-Jumayyil this evening chaired a meeting of the delegation which will accompany him to Bern and Geneva. During this meeting a review was made of the final touches to the file of President al-Jumayyil's talks with the Swiss president in Bern and to the subjects which will be raised at the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva at the beginning of next week.

REUTER quoted diplomatic sources in Damascus as saying that Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam will represent Syria at the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference, which will be held in Geneva next week. REUTER said that Minister Khaddam will be in Geneva Sunday evening.

Former President Sulayman Franjiyah, former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Walid Junblatt, and lawyer Nabih Birri arrived in Geneva today.

Saudi Minister To Attend Dialogue 3 November

NC301800 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY has reported that Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal today contacted President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and affirmed that he can't attend the Dialogue Conference until Thursday because he has to chair a conference that is being held in the Saudi Arabian Kingdom.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said that the Saudi delegation to the Dialogue Conference will consist of himself, Saudi Ambassador in Washington Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, and the new Saudi Ambassador to Lebanon Mahmud al-Kuhayli.

Some sources expect Saudi Information Minister General 'Ali ash-Sha'ir to attend the Dialogue Conference.

Meanwhile, Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri today visited Prince Bandar in Washington. They reviewed the question of the Dialogue Conference and the preparations and contacts preceding it.

17 May Agreement Seen As Most Difficult Issue

JN291845 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Dispatch by Louis Faris, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus; date not specified — live or recorded]

[Text] On the eve of the Geneva conference on the Lebanese national dialogue, diplomatic circles in Damascus are of the opinion that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement may be the most complicated issue to be discussed by the conference. Someone has informed us that Syria will never agree or compromise in any way on this issue. The Lebanese side fears moves to harms the agreement, because this means perpetuating the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon.

These Lebanese fears do not find any response in the Syrian capital, which rejects Lebanon's argument and says that canceling the agreement will restore the situation that existed before 17 May, the date the agreement was signed. At that time, every state in the world without exception supported Lebanon in its demands to end the Israeli occupation. The Syrians also contend that if the agreement is canceled, the ugliness and horror of the Israel occupation will be exposed and Israel will not be able to continue its occupation for a long time. They also say that even if the Lebanese Government claims that there is no guarantee for the Syrian forces' withdrawal, the opposite is true. This is because the Syrian Government has pledged and expressed its commitment to withdraw its forces the moment the last Israeli soldier leaves Lebanon, provided Israel does not realize any gains as a result of its invasion of Lebanon.

In this atmosphere, diplomatic sources here attached great importance to reports that President Amin al-Jumayyil intends to visit some Arab states. These circles believe that if Al-Jumayyil insisted on adhering to the Israeli-Lebanese agreement, his Arab tour would be aimed at giving the impression that he had obtained agreements or blessings concerning the Israeli-Lebanese agreement from the heads of the Arab states he would be visiting. The question now is: How will the conference deal with the agreement and what will be the results if Al-Jumayyil expresses his adherence to this agreement?

RFL on Syrian, Saudi Stand on National Dialogue

NC291820 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] While the Lebanese Dialogue Conference at Geneva is not due to start until Monday, the participants are to enter the Intercontinental Hotel from 1300 tomorrow afternoon. They are to be confined there until the work of the conference is finished.

Indications of the direction likely to be taken by the talks can be gleaned from the Damascus press, which put forward three points:

1. The annulment of the accord with Israel.

2. The complete withdrawal of American and Israeli forces from Lebanon.

3. The approval of the propositions of the National Salvation Front.

Saudi Arabia on the other hand, through its envoy Prince Bandar ibn Sultan mentioned the possibility of the talks ending with the formation of a government of national union and agreement on the president of the republic being elected by popular vote instead of by the deputies.

Prince Bandar has also said that the agreement of May 17 is rejected by 50 percent of the Lebanese. He also expressed praise for the Syrian attitude.

Egypt's Ghali Conveys Message, Makes Statements

NC281248 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Excerpts] President al-Jumayyil today received a message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak dealing with the Egyptian stand on the latest developments in Lebanon in light of the two recent attacks against the U.S. and French contingents of the Multinational Force. The message was conveyed by Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs. Following his arrival at Beirut airport, Butrus Ghali said:

[Begin recording] [Ghali] The Egyptian president has asked me to convey a message to the Lebanese president.

[Unidentified reporter] Is it a written message?

[Ghali] It is an oral message. The message expresses solidarity between Lebanon and Egypt. [end recording]

From the airport, the Egyptian minister went to the residence of the Chamber of Deputies speaker in Al-Hazimiyah, where he was received by Speaker Kamil al-As'ad at 1155. After the meeting Minister Ghali said:

[Begin recording] [Ghali] In fact, my visit to Lebanon is to express Egypt's solidarity with Lebanon: Egypt's solidarity with Lebanese unity, with Lebanese regional unity, with Lebanon's political independence, and with Lebanon's role in the Arab and international society.

[Unidentified reporter] What are your views on Lebanon's future?

[Ghali] Personally, I am optimistic and see that sooner or later Lebanon will overcome all difficulties and will once again play its leading role on a cultural and intellectual level within the Arab society and in the whole area.

[Reporter] What about the liberation of the land? This is very important and takes preference.

[Ghali] We certainly hope that in the coming weeks we will find solutions so that the Lebanese territory will be liberated from foreign forces. [end recording]

Speaker al-As'ad said the following:

[Begin recording] Egypt represents a focal point in the Arab world. Apart from its intrinsic power, Egypt has great political capabilities and can play a role through these capabilities in serving the Lebanese question, which is the starting point — as we always say — of the Arab cause in respect to the current situation and the Israeli occupation. I see through the Egyptian activity and our meeting with our Egyptian brothers that the Egyptian move at the various levels is a serious move and not a display; namely, efforts are actually being exerted for this purpose. [end recording]

Minister Ghali will also meet with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and will hold a news conference at 1500 today at the residence of Salah Zaki, head of the Egyptian Interests Section, in Al-Hazimiyah.

Ghali Expresses Hope

NC281603 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, has expressed the hope that solutions will be found in the coming weeks to liberate Lebanese territory from all foreign forces. The Egyptian minister expressed his optimism that Lebanon will overcome all difficulties and will be able to play its role once again. Dr Ghali was speaking at a news conference prior to the conclusion of his visit to Lebanon. Dr Ghali met earlier with President al-Jumayyil, Speaker al-As'ad, and Prime Minister al-Wazzan. Dr Ghali said the purpose of his visit was to assess the situation, and he affirmed it was positive. He said:

[Begin recording] Our hope is that the meeting to be held in Geneva in the coming days will lead to a new framework or to a new agreement that will give a new impetus to the peace process in Lebanon. Egypt is fully prepared to provide every diplomatic assistance to fraternal Lebanon to bring about the withdrawal of all foreign forces, to consolidate Lebanon's independence, and to bolster national reconciliation. [End recording]

He expressed the hope that the contacts the president will hold during this new phase will lead to the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon and to a peaceful settlement of Lebanon's problems so it can embark on a new political, economic, and social development.

He added that there are continuing contacts between Egypt, the United States, and the European states taking part in the Multinational Force so as to contribute to a peaceful solution to the Lebanese problem. He said: During the coming few hours we shall submit a report to President Mubarak on the outcome of the consultations. He expected that the foreign armies will withdraw through diplomatic means.

VOL on Identity of Beirut Blast Perpetrators

NC291307 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Security information received by the Voice of Lebanon at noon today indicates that the nationalities of those who blew up

the U.S. and French headquarters are Iranian, Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian. One of the Palestinians is the one who had engineered the 1970 operation of blowing up the jumbo jets in the At-Thawrah Airport in Amman, and is the leader of the operations department in George Habash's PFLP.

Iranian Ad-Da'wah Party Head Linked to Bombings
NC281708 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1655 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Lebanese security sources said today that the drivers of the two vehicles that exploded at the headquarters of the U.S. and French contingents met before the operation with Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, leader of the Iranian Ad-Da'wah Party. Shaykh Fadlallah is a Shi'ite who has broken away from the Amal Movement. The sources added that the Lebanese authorities handed the Americans in Beirut a list of the names of 11 persons proved to be involved in the two bombing incidents.

French Magazine Says Al-Asad Behind Explosions
NC300815 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] The French magazine *Le Nouvel Observateur* reports today that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad was the one who decided on the implementation of the two sabotage operations of blowing up the U.S. and French units' headquarters in Beirut. The decision took place during a secret meeting Al-Asad held in Damascus with the Iranian deputy foreign minister on 16 October. The magazine adds that the Syrian president made this decision contrary to the view of his brother Major General Rif'at al-Asad because of the fact that the United States did not honor the commitment made by McFarlane that Washington would grant Syria the so-called right of control in Lebanon. The magazine explains that the Syrian president instructed Husayn al-Musawi to carry out the mission. The magazine expresses the belief that the Soviet Union helped Syria with the implementation of both operations.

AFP: Increasing Enlistment in Amal Reported
NC281514 Paris AFP in English 1510 GMT 28 Oct 83

[By Yves Heller and Nadra Saouli]

[Excerpt] Beirut, Oct 28 (AFP) — Young Shi'ite Moslems are joining the Amal militia to carry out potential suicide missions following speculation that U.S. Marines may launch an offensive in southern Beirut, an Amal military official who asked to remain anonymous said here today.

After Sunday's twin bomb attacks on the U.S. and French military headquarters here, rumours sped through Beirut that the Marines would blame the blast on the Shi'ites and launch a reprisal attack on their neighbourhood.

Rising tension led to a growing number of incidents on the so-called front line separating Islamic militants and Lebanese government troops.

Yesterday, clashes there led to the deaths of three civilians and the wounding of 15 others in the Ash-Shiyah neighbourhood, the Amal official said. The United States has made several attempts to kill the rumours.

Leading Amal figure Ghassan Siblini told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE today that U.S. Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew, approached by the Amal leadership, had given assurances that no action would be taken against Shi'ite neighbourhoods after Sunday's bomb explosion.

The Americans did not hold Amal responsible for the attack, Mr Siblini quoted the ambassador as saying.

His comments were backed yesterday by the head of the U.S. contingent to the multinational peacekeeping force, Marine Colonel Timothy Geraghty, who affirmed that his troops would not attack the southern suburbs.

But these assurances failed to stop a new exodus from Shi'ite quarters, similar to last month's mass departures sparked by intercommunal violence.

Army in Suq al-Gharb Under Fire 31 October
NC311023 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text]Since 1145 today the Army positions in Suq al-Gharb have been exposed to sniper fire and rockets from 'Aytat. The Lebanese Army is returning the fire. Security sources have indicated that at 0300 today unknown persons blew up the residence of Deputy 'Abdu 'Uwaydat in Shhim in Al-Kharrub region.

Spadolini Holds News Conference in Beirut
NC291910 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini arrived in Beirut at 1400 today directly from Canada, accompanied by the Italian Army commander and the chief of staff in the Italian Defense Ministry.

At 1630, Minister Spadolini held a press conference at the headquarters of the Italian contingent of the Multinational Force in which he spoke in Italian about the purpose of his visit.

The Italian defense minister said: My visit to Beirut is a gesture of sympathy with the Italian contingent of the Multinational Force. It is also an opportunity to reiterate Italian solidarity to the commanders of the U.S. and French contingents because of the big losses they sustained recently.

He added: The mission of the Italian contingent will remain the same and will not be changed. It was decided in Paris at the conference of foreign ministers of the states concerned to continue the peace mission which was set for the Multinational Forces 14 months ago.

Spadolini added: I visited the commanders of the French and

U.S. contingents and expressed to them our great solidarity with them because of what they sustained as a result of the recent attack. I shall inspect the positions of the Italian contingent this evening, and we shall also discuss the means to ensure better protection for the Italian forces in Lebanon.

Spadolini was asked: Does Italy intend to send the observers it was asked to send because of the mountain war? He replied:

The question is still under discussion, and everything depends on the developments in the coming few days. The Geneva conference is being held. If the conferees reach a solution, there will be no more need to send observers.

He was asked: Have you met or will you meet with Lebanese personalities? He replied: I shall meet with the Army commander only. I am here on a specific mission as defense minister, and my meetings will be mostly with military men. I am not here on a political mission.

He was asked: Will there by any change in the number of Italian troops in Beirut? He replied: Nothing has been decided yet.

He was asked: Your visit to Beirut came as a surprise. Why?

Spadolini replied: I decided to visit Beirut following several contacts I held with my colleagues, the defense ministers of the friendly states, which have contingents in Lebanon as part of the Multinational Forces. I held some of these contacts directly with the ministers and some were conducted through contacts at Montebello in Canada. Following these contacts, I decided to travel to Beirut on a working visit aimed at acquainting myself with the effectiveness of the protection available to the Italian force there.

He was asked: If the Dialogue Conference in Geneva fails, will Italy withdraw its force from Lebanon or amend its mission? Spadolini replied: We hope that the Dialogue Conference will succeed and that the parties concerned will achieve a political solution. But if the conference does not produce positive results, I think that this will be very serious. But Italy will not withdraw its contingent from Lebanon and will not amend its mission until the reasons which called for its presence cease to exist. We are also in continuous contact with our American, French, and British friends to take whatever positions are needed.

After the press conference, Minister Spadolini went under strict guard to the Italian hospital and the adjacent camp to inspect them. It has also been learned that he will later chair a working meeting with the commander of the Italian contingent in Lebanon before he leaves Beirut for Rome later tonight.

Release of 1,000 at Dayr al-Qamar Postponed

NC281152 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Circles close to Walid Junblatt have said that the 1,000 persons who were promised release from Dayr al-Qamar today will be released in groups next week.

SS-21 Missiles To Be Used Only in Self-Defense
PM281552 London Al-Majallah in Arabic 29 Oct-4 Nov 83 p 8

[From the "Correspondents Dispatches"]

[Text] Well-informed diplomatic sources have revealed that understanding has been reached between Damascus and Moscow that the Soviet long-range SS-21 missiles may be used only in case of self-defense. Syria recently received these missiles which can hit targets at 120 kilometers distance, which puts Lebanon, Israel, and the U.S. fleet in the Mediterranean within their range.

According to reports circulating in diplomatic circles the use of these missiles requires prior approval of Soviet experts in Syria. The sources said that the missiles are fitted with high explosive warheads that can cause great damage to U.S. ships if fired at them.

Missiles Launched in Training Exercise
JN291919 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1835 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] On the instructions of President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, one of our combat formations has carried out an exercise with live ammunition, which also included the launching of long-range surface-to-surface missiles. Present at the exercise were General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief and defense minister; Major General 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff of the Army and Armed Forces; as well as a number of the command and formations' officers.

At the beginning of the exercise, those present listened to a detailed presentation the exercise director gave on the objectives and aims of the training. Then they watched the launching of the missiles at the mock hostile targets, which were hit with great accuracy.

At the end of the exercise, Gen Talas commended those who administered and implemented the exercise. He stressed that these practical exercises our combat formations are carrying out at this particular stage underline the determination of revolutionary Syria, under the leadership of our militant President Hafiz al-Asad, to face the forces of aggression and to prevent them from fulfilling their aggressive objectives against the Arab nation. Gen Talas further stressed that our valiant forces were able to absorb and handle the sophisticated weapons by the end of their annual training.

Gen Talas said that those who tried to frighten us with their fleets and aircraft carriers were disappointed and their attempts failed. Gen Talas asked the fighters to continue training and to maintain a level at which the best state of combat preparedness and permanent readiness can be achieved in order to face the enemy in the coming fateful battle.

Lebanese Leaders' Activities in Damascus Reported
JN281245 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Dispatch by Louis Faris, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus — live or recorded]

[Text] After days of intensive talks and strenuous efforts in which several persons took part, a special committee formed by the leaders of the Lebanese National Salvation Front [NSF] has prepared a complete file on the crisis and formulated proposals and alternatives that will be presented by the NSF in the Geneva conference on Lebanese national reconciliation on Monday. This committee consists of former Lebanese minister Marwan Hamadah, Dr 'Umar Missayk , and Dr Ramiz al-Khazin. It met throughout the night at the instruction of the NSF leaders Sulayman Franjiyah, Rashid Karami, and Walid Junblatt who also met during the night to prepare for the reconciliation conference. Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal movement, and senior aides took part in the meeting.

A series of contacts and meetings took place in Damascus yesterday, the most important of which was the prolonged meeting between President Hafiz al-Asad and Karami, Franjiyah, Junblatt, and Birri in the presence of 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam who also held a series of side meetings. Walid Junblatt and his senior aides moved from one meeting to another with the Lebanese nationalist movement leaders and a number of ambassadors in Damascus. During all of these meetings, it was clear that President Amin al-Jumayyil's telephone conversation with Presidnet Hafiz al-Asad the day before yesterday had its positive effect. Furthermore, Junblatt's unilateral decision to release 1,000 old men, women, and children in the besieged Dayr al-Qamar town had a positive echo on all levels.

Today, Karami, Franjiyah, Junblatt, and Birri left Damascus for Geneva to participate in the conference, thus belying the rumors that cast doubts on the possibility of convening the reconciliation conference, and creating an atmosphere of cautious optimism that will accompany the proceedings of the conference.

Today's Damascus newspapers said that the participants in the conference have the opportunity to save Lebanon from its troubles, that this dialogue is the way to save Lebanon, preserve the unity of the Lebanese people and territory, and deliver it from plots and afflictions, and called on all parties concerned to work faithfully to this effect.

Foreign Minister Departs For Geneva 30 Oct
JN301635 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Damascus this afternoon for Geneva to participate in the work of the Lebanese national dialogue conference scheduled to be held there tomorrow, Monday.

Comment on Lebanese National Dialogue in Geneva

AL-BA'TH Views Dialogue

JN281111 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 28 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial on the Lebanese national dialogue, *Al-Ba'th* says: Politicians in the world are now certain that the United States is planning to end Lebanon's existence as a state, perpetuate the Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon, and engage the Lebanese people in problems that make them lose their national ties and kill their spirit of love for and affiliation with the Arab nation. No doubt, the United States is concerned with what it calls its vital interests in Lebanon and the region; and that its Marines have not entered Beirut in peace or to defend Lebanon and its security but have been sent by the U.S. Administration to reassure the Zionist occupiers and those who plot against a unified and independent Lebanon — those who have been blinded by their sectarian rancor and filled with fascist, sanguinary spirit.

The Lebanese people have had enough of U.S. plotting. They have become oversaturated. Therefore, the rational and the more mature action is to get rid of the U.S. chains and embark on the path which guarantees Lebanon's unity and the liberation of the Lebanese territory from the Zionist usurpers.

Had the United States not wished it, the Israeli enemy would not have revealed its expansionist aims in southern Lebanon. The United States, which regards Lebanon as one of its vital interests, would not have sent its forces to Beirut had not the Zionists paved the way for this. The Phalangist party would not have spilled the blood of the Lebanese people had not the Americans and Israelis injected it with spite and rancor not only against Lebanon but against the Arabs in Lebanon and outside.

The paper adds: Thus, the path before the Lebanese national dialogue becomes very clear. Even those who have waded in the American quagmire to the extent of self-denial for the sake of the United States must see this clear path. The national forces which the Beirut rulers fought are the ones which are fighting the Zionist occupiers in defense of Lebanon. These forces have the right to reject the agreement of submission and humiliation and the hegemony of those who are submerged in the U.S. quagmire.

In order to strengthen the Lebanese people and homeland, it must first be recognized that the Lebanese card is in Lebanese and not U.S. hands; and that to risk walking on the U.S. path will not restore the national, independent Lebanese unity and will.

Concluding its editorial, *Al-Ba'th* says: As the Lebanese national dialogue conference draws closer, the participants should be convinced that Syria, which has sacrificed much for the Lebanese territory and people is still honoring its promise and pledges to Lebanon and the Lebanese people, stemming from its pan-Arab struggle and its deep Arab faith.

TISHRIN on Foiling Dialogue

JN301039 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 30 Oct (SANA) — In its editorial today, *Tishrin* says: It has become obvious that the U.S. Administration is not interested in Lebanon's survival as a united and indepedent country. This administration wants to put that Arab country under U.S.-Israeli tutelage and turn it into a base hostile to Syria and the entire region.

Tishrin asserts that the Lebanese conflict is an internal one and will be only solved by the Lebanese. The solution of the Lebanese conflict would have been solved a long time ago, had it not been for the Israeli-U.S. interference.

Tishrin continues: In order to prevent the success of the Lebanese national dialogue conference, the U.S. Administration is instigating one party against another, supporting it with its fleets and forces and by shooting at the Lebanese people. On its part, Israel is threatening to interfere if the ill-omened agreement of submission is exposed to danger.

Tishrin says: Israel and the United States do not want the national dialogue to succeed, but are interested in undermining this dialogue by escalating the internal conflict and trying to make one party dominate the others. This is because with national reconciliation Lebanon will regain its well-being, sovereignty, and security. Lebanon will also strengthen its relations with its Arab environment, especially Syria. Consequently, the U.S.- Israeli hegemony schemes will fail.

Tishrin concludes: The side which is dealing with Israel and the United States must shoulder its responsibilities in practice and be interested only in Lebanon and must talk in depth away from external influence and connections which have proved to be the cause of the destruction of Lebanon's land and people.

AL-BA'TH Urges Canceling Accord

JN310752 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 31 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Lebanese Dialogue Conference: Hope and Optimism," *Al-Ba'th* says: It may be premature to forecast the proceedings and results of the Lebanese national dialogue conference. However, it may be said — and this fact cannot be overstressed — that the conference will convene in an atmosphere filled with both hope and optimism. *Al-Ba'th* adds:

The Lebanese issue which is the crux of the conference, is not a dispute among villains, nor is it a question of an internal situation among the Lebanese people themselves. It is a more important and comprehensive problem; the problem of a country which is occupied by Zionist invaders and by U.S. and Multinational Forces that came under the pretext of peace and later sided with the invaders. It is the problem of a homeland which had been subjected to a sectarian policy seeking the assistance of the enemies against the country and people and wagering on the enemies against the people's interests.

Al-Ba'th continues: Hence, the main issue is for the conference to begin by tackling Lebanon's delivery from the occupation of the Zionist, U.S., and the Multinational Forces. The first step in this direction is the Lebanese Government's renunciation of the [Israeli-Lebanese] agreement of submission. The second step is to begin dealing with the occupiers.

We are presenting this demand because of our awareness of the lessons of history which are filled with peoples' struggles against colonialists and invaders, and because it is within the demands of the Lebanese nationalists forces which are represented by the Lebanese National Salvation Front — a front that represents the majority of the Lebanese people who aspire for freedom, independence, and a bright future.

Al-Ba'th says: We say that the conference will be held in an atmosphere of both hope and optimism: Hope because the affliction has exhausted the Lebanese people and homeland, something which necessitates salvation; and optimism because the shadows of the Israeli and U.S. warnings and threats are being cast not only on Lebanon and the region but on the conference as well. The Zionist enemy has announced that it will reject the results of the dialogue if they are reached at the expense of the Shultz' [Israeli-Lebanese] agreement.

Will any party acquiesce to enemy demands? This is the question which will accompany the conference's proceedings. The answer to this question will be the basis of the picture in the near future. will the Lebanese Government renounce its wagering and reject Israel's demands?

Concluding its comment, *Al-Ba'th* says: This [renunciation] is the hope of every sincere Lebanese who aspires for Lebanon's strength and wants freedom, sovereignty, and indepedence for a war-torn country.

TISHRIN Advises Al-Jumayyil

JN310929 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0800 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 31 Oct (SANA) — In its comment today, *Tishrin* says: Amin al-Jumayyil's yielding to Phalangist, imperialist, and Zionist pressures has made him retreat from the main guidelines which he listed before his nomination to the presidency. This yielding and retreat have caused him to lose popular Lebanese unanimity and Arab blessing, particularly that of Syria.

Tishrin adds: With the beginning of the Lebanese national dialogue, Al-Jumayyil must return to these guidelines, which he defined in his statements and speeches, and reaffirm them on the ground so that the march of the accord will proceed firmly toward building the new Arab Lebanon. This building process requires canceling the agreement of submission which put Lebanon under Zionist tutelage, affirming that Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon must take place unconditionally, ending the state of coercion which might be felt by any of the Lebanese parties, and asserting the sovereign, free, and independent Arab Lebanon, its Arab role, and its characteristic relations with the Arab brothers.

Tishrin concludes: When these steps are taken, everyone will find Syria ready and prepared to extend any help that is needed for the success of the accord and the achievement of the comprehesnive national balance which is considered the cornerstone for saving Lebanon and preserving its people's unity and territorial integrity.

Reaction to Reagan's Comments on Lebanon

Damascus on Reagan's Threats

JN281540 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1235 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Reagan affirms once again that his administration is not only endeavoring to entrench the U.S. military presence at its present size on the Lebanese territory, but is also endeavorings to expand this presence within an integrated aggressive plan that aims at extending all types of aid to Israel, controlling oil resources, and denying the our nation's right to select its course and determine its future. Certainly, what President Reagan has said is not new within the U.S. plans and aggressive objectives against our Arab region; what is new is the blatant revelation of these plans and objectives, which assert that the United States has no intention of concealing either its real objectives or even the details for implementing them.

In his news conference this morning, President Reagan wondered what will happen to what he called Israel's security if the U.S. forces withdraw from Lebanon. This means that the main objective of these forces' presence on the Lebanese territories is to guarantee security for the so-called Israel. Thus, this objective differs now from that of 1 year ago, when the objective of the U.S. forces' presence in Lebanon was to evacuate the Palestinian fighters from Beirut. It later turned into what President Reagan has admitted on several occasions since early last year — namely, achieving U.S. strategic interests in Lebanon and the region. This objective has developed once again into achieving an aggressive task that carries with it the most hideous and repulsive challenges against our nation, its rights, and honor — the task of safeguarding the so-called Israel's security.

This means that Reagan's allegations about his administration's intention to realize Lebanon's independence and sovereignty have gone with the wind, and are unsuitable to be used as a cover — although safeguarding Israel's security is neither a new nor a limited U.S. policy toward our region. Former U.S. Secretary of State Haig admitted that guaranteeing Israel's security is the main objective of U.S. policy in the Middle East. President Reagan also admitted that Israel is the United States' primary strategic ally and that safeguarding its security goes along with U.S. interests. However, the escalated signs of U.S. aggression, particularly on the military intervention level, indicate possible U.S. implementation of a direct and intensive aggressive plan in the Arab region with Israel's aid, according to the successive memorandums of understanding on strategic cooperation between the two aggressive partners, the United States and Israel.

The United States is seeking by all means to worsen the situation and spread war fever in the Arab region. It is blatantly revealing its objective toward supporting the Zionist aggressors, encouraging their expansionist intentions, and achieving their criminal objectives. It is also revealing its intention to strike at the patriotic Arab existence, deny the rights of the Arab nation, and subordinate it to its will and aggressive interests. President Reagan revealed all of the aggressive U.S. intentions. Accordingly, the Arabs must study this very dangerous situation before it is too late because the accelereated signs of U.S. aggression may not allow them to even discuss it. The Arabs must study this situation quickly because what the United States is currently planning is greater and more dangerous than safeguarding its current military presence in Lebanon. It is currently developing its aggressive plan with regard to expanding this presence not only on Lebanese territory but also on all Arab territory.

'Twisted Truth' About Syria

JN281445 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Washington — U.S. President Reagan once again provoked Arab Syria when he referred to its military strength, considering Syria's military strength a threat to the vital areas in the Zionist entity. U.S. President Reagan participated in the U.S.-Israeli-Phalangist campaign of deception and fabrication when he claimed that Syria has not kept its promise to withdraw from Lebanon.

The Damascus radio political editor noted that the U.S. President deliberately ignored the continued Israeli occupation of the Lebanese territories, Israel's rejection of withdrawal, and the efforts exerted by Washington and Tel Aviv to impose the contract of subjugation on Lebanon. The U.S. President also ignored the fact that there is no problem regarding the Syrian military presence in Lebanon, something that will take place when the Israeli invaders withdraw without achieving any gains at the expense of this Arab country.

The Damascus radio political editor also noted that U.S. President Reagan twisted the truth when he addressed the American people this morning in order to justify the U.S. dilemma and failure in Lebanon and to hold Syria responsible. This is an exposed provocative campaign that aims at antagonizing the American people against Arab Syria and providing the U.S. Administration with an excuse to continue its aggression against this steadfast Arab country.

Voice of America broadcast parts of President Reagan's speech, in which he reconfirmed Washington's aggressive objectives in the Arab region — particularly when he underlined the significance of the Middle East region to the United States and its Western allies. Reagan said that the Middle East region is the key to the West's political and economic life because of the region's strategic importance, its energy resources, and the Suez Canal. President Reagan stated that Israel is a guarantee for U.S. interests in the Arab region. He threatened that Israel represents a huge force that must be taken into consideration and that Israel's security is a matter of ethical commitment to the United States in order to preserve Israel's existence as a state. He noted the identical objectives and values of Washington and Tel Aviv.

The Damascus radio political editor noted that President Reagan tried to convince the Americans that the Middle East's importance to the security of Washington and Israel justifies the killing of U.S. soldiers in Beirut. President Reagan further said that the Beirut blasts were intended to weaken U.S. decisionmaking and force the United States and France to withdraw their forces from Lebanon. President Reagan reasserted his determination to not withdraw from Lebanon, to further reinforce the Multinational Forces, and to reinforce what he described as appropriate methods to protect these forces. He noted that Washington will cooperate with its Western allies in order to offer increasing aid to the Phalangist rule. In his speech, the U.S. President threatened that his country and its Western allies will not remain silent if the U.S. peace process is exposed to danger and if Israel fails to achieve real security, as he put it.

U.S. Vice President George Bush stated that peace can only be attained through force. He was trying to justify the U.S. military presence in Lebanon and the U.S. invasion of Grenada. Bush's remarks came in a speech in which he admitted that the past few days have been very tough for the United States, something that forced it to adopt some difficult and hard decisions, as he put it.

Predictions of Retaliatory Actions Noted

JN291536 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Washington — U.S. Government and diplomatic circles predicated here today that the United States is preparing to take retaliatory action against those responsible for carrying out the two explosions that recently took place at the headquarters of the U.S. and French forces operating in the Multinational Force in Beirut. Reports say that these predictions are based on repeated statements made by senior U.S. Government officials, including those made by U.S. President Reagan in his speech yesterday, and statements that the secretary of state made to reporters who were accompanying him on his way back to Washington from Paris.

These sources believe that Washington will take retaliatory action as soon as it prepares a plan, and after it collects sufficient information on those who carried out the attack. These sources also do not rule out the possibility of undertaking assassination attempts against elements of the organizations in Lebanon that Washington believes were behind the two explosions that killed or wounded many soldiers. Neither do they rule out that some U.S. warplanes will bomb some bases belonging to these organizations in the Al-Biqa' Valley, especially in Ba'labakk. These operations will be started with naval and air shelling after the arrival of the U.S. aircraft carrier *Eisenhower*, which was ordered to leave its base in Naples, Italy, to join the U.S. naval units off the Lebanese coast today. In his speech yesterday, President Reagan pointed out that those who effected the explosion against the Marines in Beirut will be brought to justice.

On his way back from Paris, George Shultz informed reporters that he had discussed with U.S. allies, during a meeting with his counterparts representing the countries participating in the Multinational Force, the possibility of undertaking retaliatory action against those who carried out the two explosions. He said that taking such an action against those who attacked the command of the U.S. headquarters Marines will have a preemptive effect, considering that those who carried out the operation might feel some desire to carry out a similar operation. However, European officials who attended the Paris meeting announced that their countries are not prepared to participate in such a retaliatory action if the United States decides to go ahead with such an action.

Lawrence Eagleburger, U.S. under secretary for political affairs, will visit the Zionist entity 1-6 November. AFP has quoted Alan Romberg, deputy assistant secretary of state and deputy spokesman, as saying that Eagleburger's visit to Israel has a special importance following the two explosions that took place at the headquarters of both the U.S. Marines and the French forces. Romberg added that Eagleburger will brief the Israeli officials on the outcome of his meeting with the foreign ministers of the countries participating in the Multinational Force. Eagleburger will also hold talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on the current situation in the Middle East.

Reagan's Changes of Policy Noted

JN291610 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Reagan's administration is pushing the whole world toward a large armed conflict from which no one can be saved. U.S. policy during Reagan's era has witnessed a big change marked by three major events. The first event was the relinquishment of the policy of international detente, and the move into the policy of confrontation with the USSR, the socialist states, and the people's national liberation movements. The second event was the relinquishment of the policy of abstaining from direct interference in conflicts and struggles, and the increase of arming in an attempt to achieve strategic superiority over the USSR and the socialist bloc states. The third, and serious, event in Reagan's change of U.S. policy was represented by the United States' use of armed force to impose U.S. hegemony and will and to dispose of certain regimes in independent states that do not revolve in the orbit of the U.S. imperialism.

This change of U.S. policy brought about by the Reagan administration has escalated world tension, complicated international relations, and made the clouds of a nuclear catastrophe cover the world's sky and terrify people, who see that nuclear catastrophe is coming closer. Undoubtedly, the stifling economic crisis that affects the United States and further complicates its economic and social problems has played an effective role in urging the Reagan administration to escalate international relations and enhance the arms race. However, this swinging to the brink of war has reached the point where this horrible war has become possible at any time. This war may break out as a result of a human weakness or an adventure whose consequences are not accurately calculated. If such an adventure takes place, it would be very difficult for anyone to control the situation.

What the Reagan administration has done in Grenada and what it wants to serve as an example of its action to stop current developments in the world that are not in the interest of imperialism and the fascist agent regimes, proves the falsehood of the U.S. dictums of freedom, democracy, self-determination, and the dignity of mankind. The most serious point in the example of Grenada is that U.S. President Reagan has tried, especially in his televised statements the day before yesterday, to link the Caribbean incidents and the Middle East situation in general, and Lebanon in particular. Despite the fact that President Reagan has claimed that the U.S. invasion of Grenada has come to prevent the establishment of an extremist regime that would affect the regimes in the region and to establish democracy on this small island, Reagan has tried to stir the fears of Western and U.S. public opinion by talking about the oil supplies from the Middle East and by suggesting that U.S. national security is linked with keeping the Middle East under the control of the United States and the West. President Reagan's statement on Grenada completely violates the law and the principles of the UN Charter. In President Reagan's statements on the Middle East, there is a deviation from all facts and a tendency toward adventures that would greatly endanger world peace.

It is well-known that the Middle East is not Grenada. Playing with fire in this very sensitive regaion would certainly light fire that will first burn those who lit it. Reagan's linking of Grenada and the Middle East is an attempt to conceal the clear defeat in the Middle East by an imaginary and cheap victory in Grenada. Applying the way the U.S. deals with Grenada to the Middle East is an attempt full of dangers and a risk whose consequences are not safe for the United States.

Despite the fact that we categorically reject all of President Reagan's justifications for invading Grenada, we would like to adopt his logic in justifying the invasion and ask him the following: If the United States has invaded Grenada at the request of the region's states in order to prevent the establishment of a regime that would create confusion and trouble, then is the United States ready to take the same action against Israel, which for 35 years has constituted a nucleus of disturbances, aggression, expansion, and war? If the United States is sincere, then why did it not move its forces against Israel when the latter was besieging Beirut; killing children, women, and the elderly; and depriving them of food, water, and power supplies? Reagan's justifications for the invasion of Grenada are false, and cannot be accepted by anyone who respects international laws and norms and peoples' rights. Reagan's insinuations about the Middle East and the possibilities that it would fall into hands that are hostile to the West are signs of a serious course in the U.S. policy toward the Middle East — a course that harbors the dangers of conflicts with unknown consequences.

If there is a strange hand in the region, then it is the United States' hand, which controls Arab oil and which has a military presence in various areas of the Arab homeland. It is also Israel's hand that carries out aggressions, destroys, occupies, and expands on Arab territory. If peace requires that this strange hand be kept away from the region, then the United States' hand

and its military presence must be kept away. The hand of the Israeli aggressions, expansion, and crimes must be kept away. Reagan attaches all this importance to oil in the Middle East and links the continuous flow of oil with the interests of the United States and the West, then it is an axiom that this oil is inflammable and that establishing mutual interests between the producers and the consumers requires that the will, dignity, and interests of the people who produce oil be respected.

TISHRIN Denounces U.S. Threats

JN281032 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 28 Oct 83

(Text) Damascus, 28 Oct (SANA) -- In its "Behind the News" column, *Tishrin* says: The U.S. Administration hawks who are seeking any excuse, no matter how weak, to strike at Syria are trying to exploit the Beirut blasts to push Israel toward a new military adventure regardless of its consequences and results.

Tishrin notes that this is proven by the accusations and threats of revenge that they have made against Syria even without any evidence having been obtained.

Tishrin continues: It has become obvious that the United States wanted Syria's head even before the blasts because Syria adopts a solid stand in defense of the Arab cause in Lebanon and Palestine, and because this stand has begun to strengthen the Arabs after all submission attempts have been foiled.

Tishrin says: Instead of learning from its failure in the Arab region, the U.S. Administration is now trying to prepare the atmosphere, in coordination with the fascist Zionist state, for new aggression and sufferings so as to peddle the Camp David scheme, liquidate the Palestine cause, Zionize Lebanon, and dismember the Arab nation and subjugate it to imperialist hegemony.

Tishrin concludes: Syria will neither surrender nor submit to threats and accusations, because it is the Arab front trench and force. If Syria falls, the entire nation will collapse. Syria will continue the struggle in the daylight and defend its stances and principles, holding the United States alone responsible for the consequences of its unjust and incorrect policy which is completely biased in favor of the Israeli aggression.

AL-BA'TH Warns Against U.S. Action

JN300951 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 30 Oct (SANA) -- *Al-Ba'th* says: The U.S. Administration's new threats coincide with Reagan's assertion once again that Israel is the United States' most important ally in the region and that all the U.S. moves aim at supporting this Israeli ally. These assertions also mean that the Arab countries of the Middle East must accept and encourage the U.S.-Israeli alliance as long as this alliance is in harmony with what Reagan calls the confrontation of the Soviet infiltration.

In its editorial today, *Al-Ba'th* continues: The intentional intensification of threatening statements by leaders of the U.S. Administration coincides with the convening of the Lebanese national dialogue conference and aims at obstructing this dialogue so that the results will be an excuse for the United States to take revenge on Lebanon's people and nationalist and pan-Arab will.

Al-Ba'th continues: Although the American people are convinced that their dead sons are victims of the terrorism with which Reagan began his presidency, the U.S. President is trying to hold others responsible for the shedding of U.S. blood. The U.S. President did not hesitate in attacking Syria and giving free rein to his Vice President George Bush to talk about the various possibilities and to warn Syria.

Al-Ba'th says that the reports by Western analysts assert that the U.S. Administration is planning an action against Syria. This action will not be on the pretext of avenging the slain U.S. Marines, because Syria is not responsible for the recklessness of U.S. policy, but to justify the schemes drawn by the Pentagon against Lebanon to maintain Israel's occupation of the south and to fulfill U.S. dreams of spreading its hegemony over the Arab region.

Al-Ba'th concludes: Syria will not be another Grenada, because it has the bases that make it an obstacle to the U.S. plans and the shield that protects the Arab homeland from imperialist-Zionist invasion and hegemony.

Arens Affirms Need To Stay in S. Lebanon

TA281606 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1510 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Tel Aviv, 28 Oct (ITIM) — If anyone thinks the problems involved in guaranteeing Israel's security will be solved by giving vigilante duties to bodies such as UNIFIL, he is deluding himself and the public because, given the present circumstances, we must remain in southern Lebanon; we are there because there is no other choice — Defense Minister Moshe Arens said today in a speech at the Commercial and Industrial Club in Tel Aviv.

Mr Arens came out sharply against "demands to withdraw from Lebanon voiced by Alignment people." "Knowing Peres and Rabin, I refuse to believe that either of them seriously thinks that if we returned to the Metulla-Rosh Haniqra line Israel's problems would be over. The truth is that immediately following such a move Israeli citizens would have problems. Abandoning our positions in southern Lebanon would lead to anarchy in Lebanon, the expansion of terrorist groups, and would certainly increase chances of terrorist attacks on Metulla, Qiryat Shemona, and Nahariya," the minister said.

Arens added that Israel would make efforts to strengthen the Lebanese Government and that "we could still coordinate our positions with Lebanon, the United States, and European countries to achieve a genuine partnership. By coordinating positions with the free world, we would be better able to achieve the objectives we are seeking."

At the beginning of his speech, the defense minister mentioned the murderous acts in Lebanon which led to the deaths of 225 Marines and 58 French soldiers. [figures as received] According to him, the perpetrators of the murders have not yet had their fill and they intend to carry out more such acts. "There is only one element with the motivation and the means to perpetrate such actions and that is Syria, which is backed by the Soviets. We have proved that one should not give in to terrorism. However, there are people in the world and in Israel who, although denouncing terrorism, say there are legitimate motives behind such activities and that, therefore, it is necessary to compromise and to make concessions. Now the world has learned what the PLO is all about, what terrorism is, and the means used by the terrorists," he noted.

The defense minister attacked Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and noted that the Syrians use terrorism to make sure that an independent Lebanon does not come into being, to prevent peace between Lebanon and Israel, and to have absolute control over Lebanon. "The Syrians know that we are holding 300 of their prisoners while they are holding 3 Israelis, but they refuse to talk to us about such a humanitarian issue. Do the Alignment people who urge us to talk to the Syrians not know that there is no way whatsoever to talk to them, even on humanitarian issues?," Professor Arens asked rhetorically.

The defense minister expressed his view that it would be wrong to think that the countries of the free world can play a role in the current struggle in Lebanon without coordinating their positions. In his opinion, objectives can only be attained through coordination and cooperation. "It is no secret that the important coordination we would like to have with Lebanon, the Americans, and the French does not exist because they did not want it. In this context, it should also be noted that the Marines arrived in Lebanon at the U.S. President's request and that they landed at Beirut airport only after the IDF left the site," Arens added.

The defense minister went on to say that in view of the lack of cooperation and coordination with the Americans, Israel is taking care of its own interests in order to guarantee the well-being of the Galilee and the security of the country. "We do not want to stay in Lebanon and we would like to reach a situation in which we could leave southern Lebanon and transfer control over the area to the Lebanese Government. Through cooperation with the U.S. Government and countries of the free world this may indeed be possible. One should not forget that what is going on now in Lebanon is a struggle between West and East, between the free and the totalitarian. Common sense calls for the countries of the free world to coordinate their positions on this struggle, to coordinate their moves and their strategies," the minister concluded.

Upon leaving the Commercial and Industrial Club the defense minister went to the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv to sign the condolences book for the hundreds of Marines who died in the explosion in Lebanon. The opening remarks were delivered by the president of the club, Dr Hayim Teichman.

Warning to Lebanon

TA291335 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] One day prior to the opening of the Lebanese reconciliation conference, Defense Minister Moshe Arens has said that Israel will not put up with any violation of the agreement with Lebanon since it is the basis for any arrangement [hesder] in Lebanon. The agreement [heskem] ensures the evacuation of all foreign forces from Lebanon and the independence and sovereignty of Lebanon over all its territory. In his statement, which was broadcast a short while ago on the Voice of Lebanon, Arens said that the agreement ensures proper security arrangements in southern Lebanon for the sake of both countries. Therefore, any attempt to annul the agreement or to change it is akin to damaging both countries' security needs.

As for Syria's role in Lebanon, the defense minister said that Israel knows that Damascus is trying to prevent free negotiations between the factions in Lebanon, undermine stability, and prevent the Lebanese Government from extending its sovereignty over all its territory. Syria is not averse to any method to forward its dark aims, Arens said.

Shamir on Lebanon Accord

TA310540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir says if the agreement between Israel and Lebanon is canceled, then Israel will not be committed to withdraw its forces from Lebanon. This according to Israel television reporting on yesterday's Cabinet discussion about Lebanon, in advance of the opening in Geneva today of the

Lebanese reconciliation conference. Israel has been expressing concern about Syrian efforts to pressure Lebanon to cancel the accord, signed last May, which provides for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, security arrangements along the border, and the normalization of relations between Israel and Lebanon.

Cabinet Meeting Discusses Various Issues

No Stand on Grenada

TA301128 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1113 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The Cabinet meeting has ended but no official announcement has yet been released about this meeting. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz is opposite the prime minister's office:

[Zissowitz — live] The Cabinet meeting this morning was short; it lasted about 2 hours and was almost entirely devoted to political reviews by the prime minister and by Defense Minister Moshe Arens. Prime Minister Shamir reviewed before the ministers the visit by the Canadian secretary of state for external affairs to Israel last week and the preparations for the arrival of the U.S. delegation headed by U.S. Under Secretary of State Eagleburger this coming Tuesday.

The invasion of Grenada by the United States was also raised in the Cabinet meeting. Minister Mordekhay Ben-Porat proposed that the Cabinet adopt a position in favor of the U.S. operation on this island. Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, who participated in the meeting, said in this context that Israel was not asked to adopt a position on this issue, although Israel is aware of the security interests the United States has in the areas near its shores. This review was accepted by the ministers and the Cabinet will not adopt any position on the invasion.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens reviewed the latest events in Lebanon, including the terrorist act in which two of our soldiers were killed. Here Minister Yuval Ne'eman asked for a discussion on the proposal to close down the bridges on the Al-Awwali River, but the prime minister was opposed to this and stated that this matter will be discussed by the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs.

Another matter which was on the agenda but was not discussed finally was the suggestion by Agriculture Minister Pesah Grupper to depose the head of Israel's Land Administration, Me'ir Shamir, and to appoint his deputy in his place. A front of ministers, including David Levi, Aharon Uzan and Ari'el Sharon, has emerged in opposition to this suggestion. Minister Sharon, who was absent from today's meeting, asked that the discussion on this matter be postponed and this is what the Cabinet did.

As for economic issues, they were not discussed today. The Cabinet will devote a special session to a discussion of these issues next week.

Cabinet Secretary's Statement

TA301147 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1128 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Announcement by Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor following the Cabinet meeting in Jerusalem on 30 October — live]

[Text] In today's Cabinet meeting the prime minister and defense minister reviewed various political and security issues, including the situation in Lebanon, the visit by Canadian Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs MacEachen here, as well as the upcoming visits by U.S. Under Secretary of State Eagleburger and British Deputy Secretary of State Luce to Israel. Science and Development Minister Ne'eman reviewed his visit to West Germany. Following the reviews the Cabinet held a discussion, which was concluded by the prime minister.

Today the Cabinet decided on the following membership for the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs: the finance minister will be the committee's chairman; its members will be Deputy Prime Minister and Housing and Construction Minister David Levi; Energy and Infrastructure Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i; Education and Culture Minister Zvulun Hammer; Agriculture Minister Pesah Grupper; Economic Coordination Minister Ya'aqov Meridor; Labor and Social Welfare Minister Aharon Uzan; Transport Minister Hayim Corfu; Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir; and Industry and Trade Minister Gid'on Pat.

The Cabinet heard about the burning of the synagogue in the township of Zarzis in Tunisia and expressed its shock and concern over this incident.

Meridor Blasts Syria

TA301157 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1148 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor accused Syria of trying to nullify the Israeli-Lebanese agreement through the use of an occupying force and by threats. Israel is taking a very grave view of this, Meridor said.

Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir received a message from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz which included warm expressions of gratitude for the aid Israel offered for the evacuation of the casualties from Beirut.

'Government Source' Threatens Lebanon

TA301455 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1448 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The Lebanese leadership and the Lebanese Christians should understand that canceling the cooperation between Lebanon and Israel may lead to their political liquidation. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel learned this from a government source at the end of the Cabinet meeting.

Further on Cabinet Meeting

TA301654 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1540 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel — recorded]

[Excerpt] For the last few months, Israeli officials have been regarding the Israeli-Lebanese agreement as a political corpse. However, official Israel is today demanding once again the implementation of the agreement of 17 May. A government source said that the agreement exists, and the best proof of this is the attempt made by Damascus to cancel it. The Lebanese reconciliation conference opens in Geneva tomorrow, and it is clear that discussions there will deal to some extent with the joint agreement. Government Secretary Dan Meridor has a strong view on this:

[Begin Meridor recording] We see a second Arab country which has signed an agreement with Israel, after Egypt. This is a positive phenomenon. However, there is another Arab country, Syria, which uses overpowering force and threats to force Lebanon to go back on the agreement with Israel. This should be viewed harshly within the Israeli-Lebanese-Syrian sphere, as well as in connection with the peace process in the Middle East. Anybody interested in enhancing the peace process in the Middle East and reconciling more Arab countries to the idea of Israel should see to it, in my opinion, that the Israeli-Lebanese agreement is not only not canceled but honored and implemented. [end recording]

It seems that the government secretary's words are intended not only for the Arab world but for the United States as well. The government source said today that in his opinion, Washington understands well that without Lebanese-Israeli cooperation, the U.S. Marines will stand alone in their attempt to protect Amin al-Jumayyil's government.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens reported today in the Cabinet on the number of casualties in Beirut. According to him there is still a large number of U.S. Marines and French soldiers who are considered missing.

The prime minister reported to the ministers about a message he received from Secretary of State Shultz. Shultz thanked Israel warmly for its aid proposals and added that although this time the United States did not need the aid, he himself knows that Israel will be ready to give any aid requested.

Prime Minister Shamir reported on the visit of Canadian Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs MacLachen in Israel and the expected visit of Under Secretary of State Eagleburger.

Energy Minister Moda'i said today that from what U.S. President Ronald Reagan has said, it is implied that there is a connection between the presence of the Marines in Beirut and Israel's welfare. According to Moda'i, the fact that Israel is not the reason for the Marines stay in Lebanon should be stressed time and again.

Voice of Lebanon Reports Lubrani in Geneva

TA302018 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon Radio station reported that the defense minister's aide on Lebanon affairs, [title as heard]Uri Lubrani, arrived in Geneva heading a delegation and warned Walid Junblatt not to demand at the reconciliation conference that the agreement with Israel be canceled. The Voice of Lebanon correspondent said that Lubrani met with Junblatt's aide, Marwan Hamada, and warned him that canceling the agreement will bring grave results. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports that Junblatt talked about canceling the agreement upon arriving for the reconciliation conference.

Defense Ministry Denial

TA300531 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The Defense Ministry has denied a report on the Christian Voice of Lebanon radio station that adviser Uri Lubrani was in Geneva yesterday where he delivered a warning to the Druze not to work for cancellation of the Israel-Lebanon accord. The Defense Ministry says Lubrani is not in Geneva now nor was he yesterday.

Lebanon Negotiator in Geneva

TA310629 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Israeli diplomat Yitzhaq Li'or, who was formerly Israel's representative in Beirut, was the person who has been sent to Geneva to follow the Lebanese reconciliation conference's deliberations firsthand. This has been learned by our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel from Jerusalem political sources. His mission is not official, and Israel has — as will be recalled — no status in the reconciliation conference deliberations.

Our military correspondent 'Arad Nir adds that Li'or's presence — in view of the fact that he had been partner to the attainment of the Israeli-Lebanese accord — was intended to apply moral pressure on the Lebanese Administration representatives to the meeting. Defense Ministry sources have emphasized that Israel's opposition to any change in the agreement signed with Al-Jumayyil's regime is as firm as ever.

Opposition to Jordanian Force Reconsidered

TA310626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Israel is reconsidering its opposition to the establishment of the Jordanian task force and will apparently ask for a list of U.S. pledges and guarantees in return. This and the Lebanese issue will be the focal points of the talks that will be conducted tomorrow in Jerusalem with U.S. Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger and Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy. Here is a report from Washington by Razi Barqay:

[Begin recording] While the Lebanese reconciliation talks are opening in Geneva, the United States and Israel, meeting in Jerusalem, are trying to once again reach a strategic understanding, or perhaps revive the memorandum of understanding which has never really materialized. We have learned from U.S. sources that Israel has softened its opposition to the establishment of the Jordanian commando force, which is supposed to operate in the Persian Gulf. In talks with Eagleburger, Israel will raise some demands [drishot] in return: U.S. guarantees that the force will not be activated against the IDF; thawing the freeze on the Lavi — and, as will be recalled, the United States has to date refused to allow our Aircraft Industries to use U.S. aid money to develop and manufacture the aircraft; and Israel will also broach with the delegation from Washington the idea of establishing emergency warehouses for the U.S. 6th Fleet to be built in Israel with U.S. arms and equipment to be used in times of need.

Regarding the Lebanon issue, we could obtain no clear-cut answer to the question of whether the United States plans to approach Israel and ask it to help it if and when the United States should decide to react to the explosion in Beirut.

Asked about this on U.S. television last night, Defense Minister Moshe Arens refused to comment on this. At the same time, he said that there is no doubt that Syria is behind the deed. It looks as though at least on this point — the attitude toward Damascus — the State Department, unlike the Pentagon, has been convinced. In a meeting that Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy held 3 days ago with Jewish leaders in Washington, he said that Damascus is the home of a merciless, cruel administration with which it is difficult for the United States to negotiate. We are entertaining no delusions about Syria, Murphy said in answer to questions presented by his audience, and we are not trying to play this down. [end recording]

Talks With U.S. Delegation This Week Previewed

TA300833 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 30 Oct 83 pp 1, 2

["Exclusive" report from Washington by Yosef Pri'el]

[Excerpts] Israeli Ambassador to the United States Me'ir Rosenne held two separate meetings on Friday, 20 October, with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger to exchange information and assessments about the situation in Lebanon.

The extent of expected U.S. agreement to Israel's requests on matters of procurement, export, and production of security products will also be discussed during Under Secretary of State Eagleburger's visit to Israel this week, as well as an increase in strategic cooperation between the two countries. This has been learned by the *Davar* correspondent.

Authoritative sources have reported that Israel can expect U.S. agreement regarding cooperation between the two countries. The talks with the high-level U.S. delegation that is to come with Eagleburger will begin in Jerusalem on Tuesday, 1 November, and continue until next Sunday, 6 November. During the visit the guests from the United States will meet with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Defense Minister Moshe Arens, and other officials and personalities from the government and the opposition. This will be the first contact between the U.S. Administration and the Shamir government and it is not inconceivable that during the visit Shamir will be invited to meet soon with President Reagan at the White House.

The *Davar* correspondent has learned that despite pleas by the U.S. State Department, the Pentagon did not agree to include its representatives in the delegation that is to leave for Israel tomorrow, despite the fact that the main topics to be discussed are to be of a military-security nature. The main topics planned to be discussed include: the situation in Lebanon and Israel's plans for a further withdrawal from there; the establishment of a Jordanian commando force; the future of the Lavi project; approval for the export of Israeli arms for the U.S. Army; the approval of Israel's military procurement requests from the United States; U.S. participation in financing military projects in Israel; the future of U.S. military and economic aid to Israel.

For the purpose of determining the Israeli position on the request for aid for 1985, there will be discussions on the issue at the beginning of this week between the Finance Ministry and the Defense Ministry, and Israel's economic attache in Washington, Dan Halperin, will come to Israel for this.

At his meeting on Friday with Secretary of State Shultz, Ambassador Rosenne heard a report on the discussions held the previous day in Paris by the foreign ministers of the countries participating in the Multinational Force in Lebanon.

Canadian Foreign Secretary Meets Herzog

TA281240 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Canadian Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan MacEachen ended his visit to Israel today in a meeting with the president of the state at the president's residence in Jerusalem. I hope, the Canadian guest said, that the visit here improved bilateral relations.

[Begin MacEachen recording in English] I hope that I have helped to make them a bit stronger. I think these visits are important, not only maintaining our relations but improving them. I hope my visit has had that effect. [end recording]

MacEachen and President Herzog talked about Syrian involvement in Lebanon, the Palestinian problem, and other issues.

Meeting With Peres

TA300827 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 30 Oct 83 p 3

[Text] At a meeting with Canadian Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan MacEachen, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said that, in his opinion, as long as the war between Iran and Iraq continues, there is no chance at all of an arrangement [hesder] with Syria, which will continue to play the role of "troublemaker," will try to take control of the

PLO and, through this, to implement terrorist actions in other Arab countries, too, in order to force concessions from them.

The United States, Peres said, should follow a containment policy and permit Al-Jumayyil's regime to reinforce its hold over the entire country, either by means of a broad coalition or by granting broad autonomy to various areas of Lebanon. Peres proposed that Israel implement the agreement with Lebanon unilaterally.

The Canadian foreign secretary expressed his admiration for Israeli democracy and said it was important for Israel and Canada to keep their good relations despite the dispute between the two governments over such issues as Lebanon and the administered territories.

Shi'ite Leaders Retract Statements About Killings

TA301056 Tel Aviv 'Al Hamishmar in Hebrew 30 Oct 83 p 2

[Text]Southern Lebanon — At a reconciliation meeting held this week between IDF officers in Lebanon and Shi'ite notables from the As-Sarafand village, the notables admitted that in the incident that occurred at the beginning of the week between the IDF and inhabitants, not one of the village inhabitants had been killed, contrary to their initial reports.

As will be recalled, after the incident the village notables announced that three of the village residents had been killed by IDF soldiers's shots. IDF forces had arrived at the village school with the aim of confiscating an arms cache. Dozens of village inhabitants surrounded the IDF soldiers, threw stones at them, and tried to attack them. In reaction to this, the IDF soldiers fired at the attackers and even reported to their commanders afterward that they had noticed that several villagers had been hit, but they could not say whether they had been killed.

The village mukhtar reported to the media that same day that three of the village residents had been killed in the incident between the IDF and the inhabitants of the village and, in this way, he stirred up feelings in the village and urged a commercial strike. At the end of the week a reconciliation meeting was held between the IDF and the notables, and then the notables admitted that 15 villagers had been slightly wounded in the incident, but nobody had been killed.

The IDF regards the incident with gravity. "In the future, we will not believe their stories until we see the bodies of the dead," IDF officers are saying.

IDF Takes Measures Against Attacks in Lebanon

TA310806 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0750 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The IDF is employing a variety of measures to prevent attempts to carry out mass attacks against soldiers densely deployed in various places in southern Lebanon. These measures have been taken following the attacks on the headquarters of the U.S. Marines and the French paratroopers in Beirut about 2 weeks ago. [as heard]

Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz also reports that as winter is approaching, the IDF has completed inspection of all construction in Lebanon that serves as lodging or other quarters for the IDF soldiers in order to prevent disasters like the collapse of the building in Tyre about 1 year ago.

Christians in Besieged Lebanese Town Evacuated

TA281211 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Approximately a thousand women, elderly people, and children — Christians who had been under siege in the township of Dayr al-Qamar — were permitted to leave the township which had been under siege for the past 2 months. Oil trucks, medicine, winter gear, and food for the tens of thousands of refugees who had been forbidden to leave by the Druze have entered this town. This was learned by reporter Sha'ul Menashe.

These sources noted that the people who have now left were able to do so mainly thanks to Israel's action in its contacts with the Druze aimed at preventing a massacre in the Christian township.

Talks With Egypt Aimed at Renewing Dialogue

TA281244 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Israel has been making renewed efforts to get her dialogue with Egypt going again. This, despite the charges by Prime Minister Shamir that the Egyptians are emptying the Camp David accords and the peace treaty of content. Details from Arye Haskell:

[Haskell — live] Addressing the Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency last night, the prime minister said that peace between Egypt and Israel is too serious and important to be exposed to such dangers. According to informed sources in Jerusalem, the renewed efforts to revive the dialogue are at a high level and, I understand, the United States is also involved.

It appears that Israel is prepared to drop its insistence that Jerusalem be a site for talks between the two countries and that one of the aims of the Israeli efforts is to finally get the negotiations on Palestinian autonomy off the ground. This would involve Jordan as well as Egypt and Israel.

The Israeli desire for better relations with Cairo was conveyed to Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali this week by Israel's Ambassador to Egypt Moshe Sason. Their meeting took place before the Egyptian minister flew off to visit Iraq and Jordan.

Commenting on Kamal Hasan 'Ali's trip, Director General of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry Salah Basyuni said that it confirmed the fact that his country's relations with the rest of the Arab world are now almost back to normal. Although there was undoubtedly a degree of wishful thinking in that statement — none of the 21 Arab states that severed ties with Cairo reestablished full relations — there is no denying that Egypt's isolation

has greatly eased over the past 2 years to the point where most Arab states now maintain well-staffed so-called diplomatic interest sections in Cairo. Egypt has also become a focus for Arab tourism again and, according to Premier Ahmad Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, 18 percent of total investments in Egypt is by other Arab states.

The obvious question arising is to what extent does this desire to be reintegrated in the Arab world conflict with Israel's wish for better relations and greater normalization?

Alignment Proposes Dissolution of Knesset

TA310902 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0854 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The Alignment faction this morning submitted to the Knesset Secretariat a bill proposing that the Knesset be dissolved and new elections be held. According to procedural regulations the Cabinet is entitled to hold off discussion of the proposal for 60 days, and it appears that the Cabinet will indeed take advantage of this opportunity. Our Knesset correspondent Gil'ad Mishori reports that although the bill has been submitted, the Alignment says there is no chance, at this stage, that it will win a majority.

Former Chief of Staff Founds New Party

TA302005 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] A new public body headed by Refa'el Eytan has held its first meeting in Yesud Hama'ala in the Galilee. The name of the movement is TZOMET, Renewed Zionism, and it is connected to the Tehiya movement. In his speech at the meeting, Refa'el Eytan said that Israel should exist within the boundaries of Greater Eretz Yisra'el and the Golan Heights, and its goals should be to remove the threat of extermination from Israel, and to reeducate the people to return to work and establish settlements as the first priorities of the nation. Our correspondent in the north Moti 'Eden reports that a few hundred activists from the north took part in the meeting. Among them were veterans of the 'En Wered circle and the Ben-Gurion circle from Jerusalem.

Eytan Denies Party Affiliation

TA310752 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The new movement called TZOMET, the movement for renewed Zionism, [Tziyonut Mithadeshet], which was established last night under the leadership of former Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan, will not join any existing party. Interviewed by our correspondent Hayim Hecht, Eytan said that he opposes any such coalition, although he believes there is an ideological affinity between his movement and the Tehiya movement. In his opinion the existing parties are encumbered by commitments that limit their maneuverability. TZOMET will hold meetings in various places in the next few weeks.

IDF Officer Opposes Settlement in Hebron

TA310941 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 31 Oct 83 p 2

[Report by Yosef Walter]

[Text] Major General Ori Or has expressed views against Jewish settlement in Hebron. He was speaking in an interview for *Nequda, the organ of the Jewish settlements in Judaea,* Samaria, and the Gaza District.

In reply to a question about whether he was in favor of Jews and Arabs living together in the towns of Judaea and Samaria, Maj Gen Or said: "I have witnessed many more cases of rifts than of peaceful coexistence. By the way, the Arab notables from Hebron who met recently with the defense minister did not speak against Qiryat Arba', but against Jewish settlement inside Hebron. It seems that this is causing tension among them. The military experience I have accumulated over the 4 years in the Central Command has taught me that Jewish living quarters alongside Arabs is preferable to Jewish living quarters inside Arab towns. This is from a purely security aspect."

Maj Gen Or also said that one of the worrisome processes that has taken place in the past 2 years on the eastern front is Iraq's military reinforcement, since that country had doubled the size of its army during the war against Iran, and today it contains more than 20 divisions.

ALGERIA

Messaadia Receives Soviet Cosmonaut Nikolayev

LD310045 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Algiers, 30 Oct (APS) — Member of the Politbureau and official in charge of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat Mohamed Cherif Messaadia this morning at the Palace of Nations received the Soviet cosmonaut, Major General Andriyan Nikolayev, deputy chairman of the Cosmonauts Training Center, deputy chairman of the Soviet-Algerian Friendship Society, and deputy of the Supreme Soviet Council. During the meeting, the two sides discussed relations between the two countries and the available capabilities for expanding cooperation to include various spheres. World issues of mutual concern were also discussed.

PLO, Liberation Movements Condemn Grenada Invasion

LD301209 Algiers APS in English 1018 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Algiers, 30-10-83 (APS) — Liberation movements accredited here expressed in a statement published yesterday "their firm condemnation to the new flagrant blow at peoples' right to self-determination and sovereignty." They denounced the United States of America's intolerable military invasion to Grenada. "This odious and criminal invasion that no argument could justify shows once more the arrogant and aggressive nature of U.S. imperialism," the statement further read. It criticized also Washington's pretentions of oppression and domination materialized by all kinds of genocide, repression, misery, economic, and political dependence. The statement said Grenada's invasion constitutes a prelude to another similar action against peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, and therefore should be fought by all peace loving forces in order to guarantee peoples right to self-determination independence and sovereignty.

The Palestine Liberation Organization (?strongly) rejected the "illusory" arguments of Washington to "justify" the invasion of another U.N. member. In a statement published by WAFA news agency, Mr Faruq Qaddumi, head of PLO's Political Department, said the U.S. seeks at the expenses of peoples to heighten prestige of the Marines after their defeat in Lebanon. But, he added, President Reagan who is preparing himself for elections will not make up for his failure. Mr Qaddumi sees in the use of veto by Washington a determination of Reagan administration to carry on the aggressive policy based on oppression of peoples and their domination.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Message on Grenada to Al-Jumayyil

NC310858 Beirut As-Safir in Arabic 28 Oct 83 p 2

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has sent a message to President Amin al-Jumayyil connected with the U.S. invasion of Grenada. The message was delivered yesterday by Muhammad al-Fituri, member of the Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Beirut, to Khalil Makkawi, acting secretary general of the Foreign Ministry. The message says: The current events in Grenada kill the small peoples' hopes to live in freedom on earth. These events do not only kill the Grenadian people's freedom, but also kill the 20th century civilization and exposes its falseness. The ascent to power in a big oppressive state of a person like President Reagan signals a setback for mankind and a return to the era of savagery and the jungle. Nothing will save civilization and man's freedom, which is being buried now, except a world alliance to invade the United States and to establish the principles of freedom and justice there. There are no expressions in any language that can describe this interference. It is one of the most serious precedents and violations of others' sanctities and sovereignty.

Bearing the horror of a World War III would be easier than being responsible for an international ugly and mad violation against whatever humanitarian values remain, which are today being sacrificed in Grenada, Palestine, and Lebanon. The international community and all its organizations, with their potentials, are demanded to repel the barbaric and savage U.S. invasion so that the new world's Hitler can understand that events ultimately turn against him.

PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives in Tripoli

LD281330 Tripoli JANA in English 0842 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 22, Oct 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Dr Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the Central Committee and foreign minister of the Democratic Republic of Yemen arrived here yesterday afternoon on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He told our correspondent that his visit comes within the context of constant meetings between both sisterly countries to follow up the latest developments on the Arab arena and to firmly confront the fiece imperialist onslaught against the Arab nation.

Received by Jallud

LD282135 Tripoli JANA in English 1514 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 22, Oct 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Staff-Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud yesterday met with 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, the South Yemeni minister of foreign affairs and member of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party.

Armed Forces Chief Visits Eastern Europe

Received by CSSR President

LD281438 Tripoli JANA in English 0903 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Muharram 22, Oct 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Czechoslovakian president and Secretary General of the Communist Party Gustav Husak yesterday morning received the Commander in Chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir who handed him a letter from the revolution's leader. Discussion during the meeting centered on aspects of bilateral cooperations between both countries, the current international situation and world peace and liberation issues. During the meeting, Brig Jabir affirmed the Libyan Arab

people's resolute steadfastness against the imperialist conspiracy to undermine the civilisational achievements realised under the Great Al-Fatih revolution in all fields and the savage crusading onslaught against the Arab nation.

On the other hand, President Husak expressed appreciation for the Libyan Arab people's gigantic and continuous efforts to confront imperialism and Zionism and affirmed the Czechoslovakian people's solidarity with the Libyan Arab people in their continuous struggle for freedom and progress. The meeting was also attended by the Czechoslovakian defence minster and the secretary of the Libyan Arab people's bureau in Prague.

Visits Military Aircraft Factory

LD282027 Tripoli JANA in English 1444 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Prague, Muharram 22, Oct 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir yesterday visited a military aircraft factory on the outskirts of the Czech capital Prague. Brig Jabir was accompanied on his visit by the Czech Air Force commander. During the visit, Brig Jabir listened to detailed explanations of the progress of work in the factory. He also attended an air display put on by the Czech Air Force.

Arrives in Belgrade

LD291459 Tripoli JANA in English 0910 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Belgrade, Muharram 23, October 29, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, arrived here yesterday afternoon on a visit to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. A grand reception was waiting for Brigadier Abu Bakr at Belgrade International Airport where Admiral Branko Mamula, the national defence minister, was to welcome him to Yugoslavia. Also present were the chiefs of staff of various forces and the secretary and members of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Belgrade. Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir left Prague yesterday ending a visit to Czechoslovakia. He was seen off at Prague International Airport by General Martin Dzur, the minister of national defence in Czechoslovakia, the general chief of staff, and commanders of various forces. He was also seen off by the deputy foreign trade minister, deputy foreign minister, and a number of Czech officials and members of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Prague.

Cooperation Discussed With Bulgarian Minister

LD291836 Tripoli JANA in English 1630 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 23, October, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The General People's Committee secretary of the economy and light industry this morning conferred with the Bulgarian minister of foreign trade who is currently visiting the Jamahiriyah to attend meetings of the Joint Libyan Arab-Bulgarian Committee. Discussing during the meeting that was also attended by the accompanying Bulgarian delegation, centred on bilateral cooperation in agriculture, marine transport and housing, health, education, communications, and the possibility of developing this cooperation in ways that would be commonly beneficial. The Heavy Industries Secretary Mr 'Umar al-Muntasir this morning conferred in Tripoli with the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Khristo Khristov. Discussions during the meeting centred on various areas of bilateral cooperation and methods of bolstering this cooperation.

French Court Releases Terrorist Suspect

NC281628 Paris AFP in English 1550 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Paris, Oct 28 (AFP) — A French appeals court today ordered the release of a Libyan citizen arrested October 7 on an Italian warrant connected with a 1980 terrorist murder. Sa'id Rashid Muhammad 'Abdallah was expected to board a flight to Tripoli from Paris later in the day, airport sources said. Mr Sa'id, 34, was suspected of having taken part in the June 11, 1980, murder in Rome of a fellow Libyan, 'Izz ad-Din Lahaderi. He was also alleged to have masterminded the murders of several opponents of the Libyan Government. The decision to release him had been expected, as France had not received an Italian extradition request within the legal time limit of 20 days after the arrest. In Rome, authorities said yesterday that the extradition request had been sent through diplomatic channels 10 days ago.

JANA Interviews Sa'id Rashid

LD311101 Tripoli JANA in English 0943 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram Oct 31, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Sa'id Rashid, who arrived in Tripoli after he was arrested for a period of three weeks in one of the French prisons, talked about the circumstances of his arrest by French police while passing through Paris. He explained that his arrest by the French police was planned in advance and without any grounds. He said, "I felt, during the interrogation, that they were dealing with the wrong person and that there were some elements who were trying to poison the Libyan-French relations as well as defaming the socialist regime in France through creating scandals." Sa'id Rashid in his interview with JANA's correspondent, which he gave after his return, accused the right wing factions in the French police of trying to shake the confidence in the socialist regime in France, and to harm its relations with friendly countries through such oppressive actions and measures.

Sa'id Rashid added that he noticed clearly the obstacles to the attempts of freeing him not only from the police but also by some right wing judges. He said, "Even after the charges against me were dropped by the general prosecution who represent the French state the right wing judges on the court, were behind the operations to hinder my release. The aim of this, naturally was to soil the Libyan-French relations and to give bad impressions about Libyans." Sa'id Rashid also talked about the difficulties he faced during the period he spent in prison. He talked about the maltreatment and the disregard of the visiting doctor concerning his health which had deteriorated due to the difficulties. He reaffirmed that this maltreatment was the responsibility of the people who aim to destabilize relations between Libya and France and that the socialist government is not responsible for it. He expressed hope that such oppressive measures will end soon.

Chad's Kamouge Says People Reject Habre

LD281550 Tripoli JANA in English 0856 28 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 21, oct 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The vice president of the legitimate government in Chad, Mr Abdel al-Qadar Kamouge, has announced that the people revolution is significantly spreading throughout the south against Habre and his fascist gang. Kamouge has mentioned that the Chadian people beyond no doubnt reject the agent Habre and would increase their resistance to overthrow him. He announced that the revolutionaries in the south have recently liberated strategic places which were used by Habre gang as administrative centres like Yamboutov, Akuldaka, Bikuro, and Dymbo. The fighters have also destroyed the bridge of Duro and Birkuro. Kamouge told JANA that the fighters have controlled the area of Bikuro since 13th October. It is known that on 23d October, Musaila Province surrendered to the revolutionaries after a long siege. Kamouge announced that the fighters attacked one of Habre's units while it was on its way from Sara to Duba,killing 68 soldiers and capturing huge quantities of weapons.

SUDAN

Numayri Inspects Air Defense Forces 29 Oct

JN291928 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1735 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Ports Sudan, 29 Oct (SUNA) — Field Marshal Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, minister of defense and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, made a 5-hour inspection today of the Air Defense Forces here during which he acquainted himself with the state of these forces' combat readiness in their capacity as being responsible for protecting the homeland's skies and deterring any air attacks. Upon arrival, Field Marshal Numayri was briefed by Major General Fu'ad Ahmad Salih, commander of the Air Defense Forces; the second in command; the unit commanders; and the staff officers in the command on the Air Defense Forces' mission, on the responsibilities, combat readiness and missions and capabilities of the Air Defense Forces' training institutions.

Returns From Defense Inspection

JN301553 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Oct (SUNA) — Field Marshal Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, minister of defense and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, returned to Khartoum this afternoon after a visit to Port Sudan during which he inspected both the Air Defense Forces and the Naval Forces. President Numayri said that the visit came on the occasion of the graduation of a new group of inductees, who were trained in the use of antiaircraft guns and rocket equipment. President Numayri also examined all the equipment and noted the high morale of every officer, NCO, and private, who all feel a special responsibility after the declaration of Islamic law as the basis of legal work in Sudan. He also said that the People's Armed Forces are ready to defend religion and the state at any time and in any place. He added that if the enemies try to harm Sudan's dignity, the Armed Forces will protect and defend the land until death.

TUNISIA

uf headlineFurther on Visit of French President Mitterrand

Meets Chedli Klibi

LD281014 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] President Francois Mitterrand yesterday evening met with the secretary general of the Arab League, who was accompanied by the representatives of the Arab member-countries. The secretary general delivered a speech in which he focused on the difficult circumstances experienced by the Middle East region and the important role played by France in the past and its continued assumption of a role which increases daily. Chedli Klibi discussed the tragedy of the Palestinian people and called for just treatment of these people, who are struggling for justice and dignity [word indistinct] against the walls of Israeli intransigence. The international community has failed to change the course of events and enable them to freely determine their destiny. He remarked that the United States and the European countries are able to stop the Israeli impudence and prevent the Middle East from falling into an abyss of chaos, in which the impact on world peace cannot be predicted. On this issue, Chedli Klibi reaffirmed the PLO and the Arab nation's readiness to work for the establishment of permanent peace [word indistinct] respect of international law.

Discusses World Situation

LD281006 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Excerpts] The French-Tunisian summit meetings between Presidents Habib Bourguiba and Francois Mitterrand began yesterday. The head of state stressed, while welcoming President Mitterrand at a luncheon banquet, Tunisia's appreciation of this visit. He talked about the productive efforts and the unyielding determination in Tunisia for the construction of a society where equality and justice among all Tunisians prevailed. The president then discussed Tunisian-French relations, explaining that if bilateral relations are to prosper, it would be beneficial to clear past strains and prepare a solid basis on which the future generations of both countries would discuss projects facilitating the transfer of technology and a scientific structure that will resort to the same methods in [word indistinct] and research. The great struggle raised the subject of the Tunisian community in France and the national action embarked on to reintegrate into the Tunisian society.

In his speech, President Bourguiba remarked on the world situation and the tension experienced in the world as a result of submitting to impulses of boredom or fear, or a tendency to control and not forgive. He addressed world leaders, warning them of the perils which were embedded in these provocations, and asked them to control the situation in a way that would save humanity from a situation that could lead to its final destruction. The head of state expressed concern about the condition of the Palestinian people and their suffering as a result of the world's (?indifference) to their cause, and gradual (?moving away) from it. In his reply to the great struggler's speech, President Francois

Mitterrand expressed his pleasure at being in Tunisia. He said that the relations between Tunisia and France represented success in the full meaning of the word, and that after 27 years of independence the situation had to be viewed with new vision. The French president expressed his confidence in the future of the relations between Tunisia and France, explaining that the two countries' points of view were similar regarding most issues of mutual concern.

The French president then discussed a number of world issues, especially French-Arab relations and the Middle East. He expressed his belief that France's relations with the Arab world were based on productive dialogue. He explained that the Palestinian people must enjoy their right to self-determination, and the French president called for the implementation of UN resolutions on the Middle East problem. President Mitterrand discussed the French presence in Lebanon and other parts of the world and noted that France had no ambitions in other people's territories and had no intention of exercising any influence that would be a reminder of the past — indicating the colonial era. He said that our objective is to maintain the balance necessary for peace. He explained that the French troops would leave centers of conflict as soon the fist signal for peace came from international institutions or a group of countries whose authorities are recognized by the parties concerned.

Meets French Community

LD281022 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Yesterday evening, French President Francois Mitterrand met with members of the French community in Tunisia. The meeting was attended by Minister of External Affairs Claude Cheysson and Minister of Economy, Finance, and Budget, Jacques Delors. The French community in Tunisia totals between 13,000 and 14,000 people. Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and his wife yesterday evening held a dinner banquet in honour of the French president and Mrs Mitterrand and members of the accompanying delegation. Mrs Bourguiba attended along with members of the government, the Political Bureau, and speaker of the National Assembly Mahmoud Masaadi. President Mitterrand will this morning visit the National Assembly, which will be holding an extraordinary session during which the French guest will deliver a speech. He will then visit the (?Bardot) museum and the Mandes France Institute. Mitterrand and his wife will hold a dinner banquet this evening honoring President and Mrs Bourguiba. At 1500 (1400 GMT), today, President Mitterrand will hold a press conference, after which he will proceed to Munastir to visit the Bourguiba family.

Visits Chamber of Deputies

LD281752 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies held an extraordinary session this morning under the chairmanship of its president, Mahmoud Messadi, on the occasion of French President Francois Mitterrand's visit. Messadi delivered a speech which he began by welcoming President Francois Mitterrand and the members of his delegation. He said that the Tunisian deputies thank President Mitterrand for paying this visit to their chamber and for delivering a speech to it. They see in this speech, he said, a salute to the Tunisian people who have struggled for freedom and democracy and who have since independence been marching along that course, with steadfast steps. He said that Mitterrand's visit provides proof that the Supreme Combatant has actually fulfilled the pledge he made on his own behalf and on behalf of the Tunisian people to transform Tunisian-French relations into relations of friendship and cooperation.

For his part, President Francois Mitterrand began his speech by saying that his presence in the Chamber of Deputies reminds him of the personal ties that bind him to the president of the Chamber of Deputies and enhances his hopes in the peoples' ability to achieve democracy. He affirmed that his knowledge of the Tunisian cause since 1962 and his relations with President Bourguiba and his colleagues have enabled him to continue dialogue with the Tunisian people, who know how to safeguard the gains they have made, the most important of which is independence. The Tunisian people have been able to take control of their destiny thanks to their wisdom and the farsightedness of the supreme combatant, Habib Bourguiba, who has succeeded in building a nation and a people capable of taking control of their future.

He said that his visit to Tunisia and to the Chamber of Deputies aims at tackling problems between the two countries on the basis of cooperation and clarity. He added that he has reviewed with President Bourguiba, Prime Minister Mzali, and the Tunisian delegation the most important issues of cooperation between Tunisia and France. Pending issues were not subject to any dispute between the two sides, but are merely historical legacies that the two sides will make serious efforts to solve. He explained that France is fully ready — indeed it is its duty — to help Tunisia in the field of technology transfer and advanced industry.

President Mitterrand then detailed France's attitude toward the most important international issues, starting with the issue of the Greater Arab Maghreb, which he described as a grand idea and a great and difficult project. He affirmed that by virtue of its geographic position and the wisdom and farsightedness of its leaders, Tunisia can play a principal role in creating the structure of the Arab Maghreb, particularly as present conditions in the Maghreb countries are favorable. President Mitterrand then spoke of the future of the Mediterranean basin, affirming the need for efforts to turn it into a lake of peace, and distance it from international military conflicts. This, he said, makes it imperative for all the peoples living around this sea to coordinate steps, because the interests that bind them together are greater than the problems that divide them.

Concerning the Middle East and the Palestine question in particular, President Mitterrand affirmed that France's position is clear: It recognizes the right of all peoples in the region to life and self-determination in accordance with UN resolutions. He added that the recognition of one side's rights should not be at the expense of the rights of the other side. After discussing the Iraq-Iran war and France's position toward it, President Mitterrand spoke of the Lebanese question. He said that the French presence in Lebanon is in response to an appeal from the legiti-

mate Lebanese Government and that his country is ready to leave Lebanon — because it has no ambition to seize an inch of Lebanese territory — whenever the United Nations proves its ability to safeguard peace there by political means.

President Mitterrand spoke also of the East-West dialogue and the Euromissiles. He said that France has its own views in regard to the balance of power in the area. It defends these views in Europe as it defends them in Latin America and the Middle East. He added that France considers peace to be the only basis for cooperation with all peoples, including the USSR.

In conclusion, President Mitterrand affirmed that man's determination and his ability to control events is the only way to the establishment of peace through international organizations. He added that Tunisia has provided an example of this fact by winning its independence and formulating its future on the basis of responsible rational dialogue. He affirmed that this qualifies it and France to cooperate together and to reach understanding between them. Following the Chamber of Deputies visit, President Mitterrand and Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali visited the museum at [name indistinct] and walked along its corridors and lobbies, which reflect the various cultures and civilizations. A plaque was presented to President Mitterrand as a souvenir.

Comments on Lebanon

LD281435 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Excerpt] On the second day of Francois Mitterrand's official visit to Tunisia, the head of state made a speech this morning to the Chamber of Deputies near Tunis. Francois Mitterrand talked about the situation in Lebanon, mentioning the role that the United Nations could play:

[Begin Mitterrand recording] It is quite simple. Once the international institution — I am thinking of the United Nations in particular — shows itself capable alone, as I ardently desire, of assuring the reestablishment of law in Lebanon, as well as concord and harmony, in its own way and by the means of diplomacy available to it. I tell you straightaway that France will ask for nothing more [word indistinct]. It is waiting for this moment which has been too long delayed. It has no particular design, no territorial design, no direct or indirect political design, not an hour more once we are sure that law — and law as defined by those able to express it, the high international body — once law has been, not defined, as it already has been, but (?assimilated) as a mode of behavior for daily behavior. [end recording]

Speaks at Banquet

LD281958 Tunis TAP in French 1300 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Tunis, 28 Oct (TAP) — President Bourguiba held a dinner banquet on Thursday in honor of French President Francois Mitterrand, who is on a 3-day official visit to Tunisia. In a speech made during this dinner, Mitterrand mentioned several issues, including in particular those pertaining to France's stance on the Middle East on the one hand and on the emigration of Tunisian workers on the other.

Mitterrand said: "Beyond its alliances and agreements, to which it is faithful, France tries to prevent each problem in this area of the world, as in others, being turned immediately into a confrontation between the blocs, and to prevent all events being equated into some kind of East-West competition, which actually results in each country's leaders losing the capacity to make the decisions upon which the fate of their people depend. France is trying to maintain the necessary balance that will enable the world to live in peace." The French head of state went on: "I would like France to take full account of the right of each people to have a homeland. This is the line of reasoning we applied from the beginning toward the Palestinians. I said this at the Knesset. Yes, the Palestinians have the right to live on a land which would be their homeland, in which they can build the structures they want."

Holds Press Conference

LD281852 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] French President Francois Mitterrand held a press conference this afternoon during which he replied to questions from Tunisian and French media representatives. Several issues were raised during the press conference, covering French foreign policy toward the countries of the Arab Maghreb in particular and Arab countries in general, the situation in Lebanon, the Palestine question, and a number of other international issues besides French-Arab Maghreb relations. He praised the atmosphere that prevailed during his talks with Tunisian officials. He affirmed that his country is anxious to maintain good relations with countries of the Arab Maghreb.

He then spoke of the question of the establishment of a unified Greater Arab Maghreb, stating that this matter rests with the countries concerned and that his country's concern is to have excellent relations with the Arab Maghreb countries. He said that he had affirmed this in the statement delivered during the banquet held in his honor by the supreme combatant, President Habib Bourguiba, and in his speech at the Chamber of Deputies.

With regard to France's position toward the Iran-Iraq war and the sale of the Exocet and Etendard to Iraq, President Mitterrand said that his country respects all agreements concluded with Iraq. Furthermore, he said, his country has the right to choose its own friends.

With regard to the situation in Lebanon and the Multinational Force, President Mitterrand said that enemies of that force are enemies of Lebanon's sovereignty and unity. He added we will remain at the disposal of the Lebanese Government until peace and security are established in Lebanon and the Lebanese return to their country. He affirmed his support for the Lebanese conference, saying that this conference means that new things are taking place in Lebanon. He appealed to the Lebanese sides that are to participate in this conference to execute the level of the responsibility laid upon them so that peace and stability can return to Lebanon.

On the Palestine question, President Mitterrand stated that his country respects U.N resolutions on this subject and that France's stance remains unchanged. It supports the solution of this problem through negotiations.

On the question of Portugal's and Spain's joining the EEC and the effect this might have on relations with the Arab Maghreb countries, President Mitterrand said that France will work to maintain the excellent relations with these countries and to ensure that the Mediterranean countries will not be harmed by the new formation of the EEC. With regard to the conditions of migrant workers in France and the racist assaults they have been exposed to, President Mitterrand denied that this demonstrates a racist wave, saying that only bad tendencies, protests, and strong dialogue are occurring. He affirmed that the conditions of foreigners in France have improved lately in all respects, and that his country is hospitable and that his government supports the immigrants within the framework of the law. He expressed the French Government's decision to check intensive immigration.

With regard to French foreign policy, he affirmed that his government pays special attention to the East-West conflict, particularly the question of Euromissiles. He affirmed that France works for the maintenance of balance between the two superpowers and for ensuring that the question of East-West relations does not continue to dominate other world issues.

On Sale of Etendards

LD290903 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] As usual at the time of a Socialist Party congress, Francois Mitterrand has chosen not to be in France for the occasion and thus not to speak of internal policy matters. The president of the republic has been in Tunisia now for 2 days for an official visit combining politics and tourism, an occasion for the head of state to speak of the place that France occupies in the world and in the Middle East. Francois Mitterrand gave a serious warning to the authors of the Beirut attack: Those who consider themselves our enemies must not think that they can act with impunity. Then the French president spoke of the Iran-Iraq conflict:

[Begin Mitterrand recording] The Super Etendard planes are there where they should be if France is to observe its contracts. Therefore, the day or the place matters little. What is certain is that the contract should be observed. We have relations of friendship with Iraq and if more difficult relations were created with Iran we truly would not want to worsen them. We would like our position to be better understood by Iran. We are not Iran's enemies. France must not appear as an enemy of people and countries with whom we have no conflict. But France has the right to be the friend of anyone, above all it is a question, forgive me, of maintaining a historic balance which, if destroyed, would have consequences that you can well imagine. [end recording]

Ends Visit

LD201331 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Excerpt] President and Mrs Francois Mitterrand left Tunisia at 1220 today following their 3-day official visit as guests of the grand combatant. The French president and his wife were seen off by the grand combatant, who shook hands at length with his guest at the stairs of the plane, and by Mrs Bourguiba. Also present were members of the government, the Political Bureau, and others headed by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Sends Condolences to Cuban President

EA282341 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam today conveyed deep sympathy and condolences to the people of Cuba over the death of Cuban construction workers during last Tuesday's invasion of Grenada by U.S. Armed Forces. In a message to Comrade President Fidel Castro Ruz, Comrade Chairman Mengistu said Ethiopia is aware of and greatly impressed by the heroic resistance of the Cuban construction workers alongside the valiant people of Grenada against an overwhelming U.S. armed invasion force in Grenada. All peace-loving people and indeed the whole world will bear witness to the heroic struggle of these few brave men and women, and history will once more record the sacrifices which Cuban internationalists are making in the cause of peace, justice, and democracy.

Ethiopia strongly condemned U.S. aggression against Grenada and has categorically and in no uncertain terms rejected all the pretexts advanced by the United States. May I, on this sad occasion, express to you, Comrade Fidel Castro, and through you to the gallant people of Cuba in general and to the family of the bereaved in particular revolutionary Ethiopia's deep sympathy and condolences.

KENYA

Njonjo Commission Adjourns Until 22 November

EA282200 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The judicial commission set up by President Daniel arap Moi to inquire into allegations made within and outside parliament involving the former minister for constitutional affairs, Mr Charles Njonjo, opened this morning at the old chamber of parliament building and has adjourned until 22 November.

SOMALIA

DFSS Statement Condemns U.S. Action in Grenada

EA292008 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] A press statement released by the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces vehemently condemned the naked aggression by the United States against the independent country of Grenada, which is one of the islands in the Caribbean. The DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces denounced the invasion by the U.S. Navy and paratroopers of the independent country of Grenada on 25 October as unprovoked and absolutely unjustified. The DFSS described it as nothing but an expansionist warmongering move by the Reagan administration which pursues policies opposed to the peoples of the world.

The press statement by the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces views U.S. bases in Somalia, in Berbera, Mogadishu, Chisimaio, and (Bali Dogleh) as yet another danger. The press statement by the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces urged the Somali community to be vigilant in the face of such dangers wherein a nation's sovereignty is usurped, as happened in Grenada.

SALF Chief Receives Visiting ELP-PLF Leader

EA290013 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front in Somali to Western Somalia 1200 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The secretary general of the Somali Abo Liberation Front, SALF, Mr Hajji Mahmud Abdi (Robey), received in his office the chairman of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces, ELF-PLF, Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh, at the beginning of this week when Mr Saleh Sabeh was on an official visit to Somalia. The secretary general of the Somali Abo Liberation Front, Mr Hajji Mahmud Abdi (Robey), and chairman of the ELF-PLF of Eritrea, Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh, discussed bilateral matters relating to the strengthening of cooperation and ties between their two fronts with regard to foreign affairs, information, and fighting personnel.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Hajji Mahmud Abdi (Robey) told of the successes achieved by the SALF in its struggle against the Abyssinian black colonialists to liberate their territory from the yoke of the Abyssinian colonizers. The SALF and ELF-PLF officials pledged to work for closer cooperation and ties between their two organizations in order to speed up the liberation of their land from the Abyssinian enemy and its backers.

Further on ELP-PLF Visit

EA290019 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front in Somali to Western Somalia 1200 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The chairman of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces, ELF-PLF, Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh, and his delegation have visited the training college of the Western Somali Liberation Front forces. Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh, accompanied by the secretary general of the Western Somali Liberation Front, WSLF, Mr Shaykh Abd an-Nasir Shaykh, toured several sections of the college and watched displays by new recruits who are currently doing their training.

Addressing the staff and students of the college, Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh congratulated them on their high degree of training, which he said was the only effective way to confront the enemy Abyssinian soldiers and their backers. The chairman of the ELF-PLF of Eritrea, Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh, urged the staff and students to learn the latest techniques of rural and urban guerrilla warfare so as to speed up the liberation of their land from the anachronistic Abyssinian colonizers.

TANZANIA

SADCC Conference Opens in Arusha 26 October

MB280950 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] The minister of trade, industry, and tourism, The Honorable Mooki Molapo, says the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] countries will together set in motion a process of regional coordination and trade development which will ultimately transform the trading relationships which at present exist. Speaking in Arusha, Tanzania, yesterday after the opening of a SADCC conference, the minister recalled that a similiar gathering realized that it was not credible for member-states to have a regional industrial development policy without an agreed frame of trade enhancement. Expressing awareness that the Tanzanian president and his government were not restricted to political freedom only [as heard], but also in efforts to strengthen and expand the struggle for economic liberation, the minister said that crucial to this struggle is food production, which is a challenge confronting all SADCC member-states.

CHAD

Minister Affirms Government Control Over South

JN292155 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 29 Oct (SUNA) — Chadian Minister of Justice Qudalbaye Naham has denied the Libyan-based Chadian opposition's allegations that its forces have occupied a number of villages in southern Chad. He asserted that the government forces are in full control of the south and that none of these villages is out of the government forces' control. The minister, who returned here yesterday after leading a political delegation for 2 weeks in the south, said that he heard such talk only after his return to Ndjamena. He added that such talk is merely lies and nonsense; he explained that a group of three people looted a corn warehouse in the south early last month. He also called on the citizens to neither spread nor believe such rumors.

On the other hand, (Ahmad Kosh), member of the FAN, secretary general of Ndjamena municipality, and member of the political delegation to the south, explained that there are some robbers, half of whom are armed. He added that these robbers lie in wait on roads in the south, attack and empty citizens' carts, and rob citizens returning from the markets of their money. He also said that these groups have no political aims and that they escape as soon as they sense any movement of government forces toward them, thus affirming that no one can occupy a single village in southern Chad.

OLTIF Claims Responsibility for Ndjamena Attacks

AB301155 Paris AFP in French 1124 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Lagos, 30 Oct (AFP) — A communique reaching AFP in Lagos on Sunday morning submitted by a group that calls itself the "Organization for the Liberation of Chad From Fascism and Imperialism" (OLTIF, a Chadian movement hitherto unknown) claims responsibility for three attacks perpetrated in Ndjamena in September and October. The communique, signed on 15 October in Binedir by Tahir Seid, the secretary general of the movement, mentions three attacks "carried out by commandos" that have not been made public up to now.

The first is reported to have taken place on 25 September and to have blown up the Gredia transmitting center, thus disrupting Radio Chad transmissions for 48 hours. The second attack is said to have been carried out with a grenade at the "Pauline" bar in the Sarammoursal area in Ndjamena. It is reported to have taken place on 1 October and to have caused the death of several Zairian and Chadian soldiers. The third was made on 5 October in a bar in the Sabangali area. Three soldiers were alleged to have been wounded.

The OLTIF claims to be a revolutionary movement for national liberation that wants to combat "Hissein Habre's fascism imposed on Chadians by imperialism."

'Reliable' Source Says Pilot Defects to GUNT

AB290940 Paris AFP in English 0942 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Brazzaville, Oct 29 (AFP) — The pilot of one of the Ndjamena government's few transport aircraft has defected to the other side in the Chadian civil war, a reliable source said here. The officer, a captain in the Chadian Air Force, arrived here on October 19 bringing a Douglas DC-3 aircraft for an overhaul, the source said. The other members of the crew, a Chadian co-pilot and a French mechanic, decided not to go over to the side of ousted President Goukouni Oueddei.

The source said that in deserting to Mr. Goukouni's Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) the pilot gave an assumed name of Mahamat Jackson. Many opponents of President Hissein Habre have fled to Brazzaville in recent months. Some of them have close links with the GUNT.

Bardai on Defection

AB281006 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The national annihilation forces, taking advantage of the pause in fighting on the northern front thanks to the intervention of forces of aggression which have secured their rear base, are regaining their strength and launching operations against the National Liberation Forces [ANL] commandos in the east, center, and south of the country. In this way, they think they can silence the revolutionary forces of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT]. In a suicidal attempt the FAN launched attacks on Hamkouri in (Bada) district, Argar in Chari Baguirmi district, Ambai Boukoum in Logone Occidental district, and Moisala in Moyen Chari district. Unfortunately for them, all these operations ended in crushing defeats.

In view of the intensifaction of the fighting and the defection of enemy troops, the ANL commandos, who have just adopted a new (?military) strategy, preferred to switch from guerrilla warfare to a positional warfare through direct control of some areas. In the south, they control Baibokoum and Moisala subprefectures. In fact, following a siege of a few days aggravated by the destruction of a bridge linking Koura and Moisala and serving as a passageway for FAN reinforcements, the enemy, who was harassed on all sides, had no other alternative but to surrender. These operations, which were carried out with weapons provided by international imperialism under the umbrella of the French-Zairian forces of aggression, have provoked the anger of the patriots who were only awaiting the first opportunity to join the GUNT.

Thus, an air crew which had been asked to deliver a cargo of arms of all calibers and ammunition in southern Chad diverted their plane — a DC-4 aircraft — to Brazzaville in the Republic of Congo and announced their defection to the government headed by Comrade Goukouni Oueddei. They are: the pilot, Captain Mahamat, alias Jack Jackson, an air traffic adviser at the presidency of the FAN; Sodekoura Rossi, the navigator; the

(?copilot), Matama Nabemgar; and a French technical assistant. By their very spectacular and patriotic act, the Chadian pilots and their French colleague wanted to protest against the extortions, humiliations, ingnominious acts, arbitrary detentions, and barbarous massacres laid down as a system of government by the adventurist clique of the Ndjamena gang leader against the Chadian masses.

This heroic act constitutes a crushing setback for the unpopular and dictatorial policy of the adventurist Hissein Habre, whom French-American imperialism continues to support. The defection of the three Chadian pilots with a DC-4 plane, which served as a veritable linchpin in the movement of the FAN troops, has put an end to the existence of the [word indistinct] fleet and to the participation of Chadian pilots in the shameless genocide of Chadian civilians. In this regard, we recall the warm congratulations addressed to the brave pilots by the Ministry of Defense.

CONGO

PCF's Marchais Visit Ends; Communique Reported

AB281530 Paris AFP in French 0930 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Brazzaville, 28 Oct (AFP) — Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party [PCF], left Brazzaville on Thursday evening at the end of a 3-day official visit to Congo. Before leaving for the Brazzaville International Airport, George Marchais, accompanied by Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, head of state and chairman of the Congolese Labor Party [PCT], rode through the popular areas of the city where he received warm greetings from thousands of people.

In a joint communique issued in the afternoon, the PCF and the PCT reaffirmed their desire to "strengthen" their cooperation, especially the periodic exchange "of information and delegations." The text stresses that discussions between Mr Marchais and the Congolese leaders took place in a "atmosphere of frankness and understanding." The PCF and the PCT expressed their "concern" over the situation in Africa, whose deterioration is "partly" due to the forces of "imperialism." They called for a "negotiated solution" to conflicts, mainly through the OAU. On Chad, the PCF and the PCT demand the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Chadian territory. They pledged to work in favor of "disarmament" and the restoration of a "new economic order."

During his stay in Congo, Mr Marchais held many working sessions with leaders of the PCT and President Sassou-Nguesso. During a banquet offered in his honor on Tuesday night, Mr Marchais once again denounced the "pressure" exerted on theAfrican Continent by "American imperialism," especially through "multinational companies." On his part, President Sassou-Nguesso felt that the visit of Mr Marchais to Congo was "comforting" and it constituted "the expression of international solidarity" between "progressive" parties.

The PCT leader spent a day in Pointe Noire, Congo's economic capital, where he was accorded an enthusiastic welcome by the people. He visited industrial and agricultural production units. On Thursday morning in Brazzaville Mr Marchais held a "discussion" with the PCT militants on the theme "the strategy of the communist party" in France and in the world. He was later received for the second time at an "intimate luncheon" by Col Sassou-Nguesso.

Mr Marchais was expected in Cotonou, capital of Benin, on Thursday night. This is the last leg of his 10-day African tour which took him to Angola 20-24 October.

GABON

Iranian Official Arrives With Message for Bongo

GF291602 Tehran IRNA in English 1540 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 29, IRNA — The political deputy of Foreign Affairs Ministry, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, who arrived in Gabon Friday afternoon told reporters at the airport that he would discuss issues of mutual interest and international issues with the Gabonese officials. Furthermore he said that he was carrying a message from Islamic Republic president, 'Ali Khamene'i to his Gabonese counterpart, El-Hadj Omar Bongo.

Commenting on relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Gabonese Republic, Sheykh ol-Eslam said that it was satisfactory and added that both countries held similar stances on various issues including OPEC and the Non-Aligned Movement. We hope that with cooperation of Gabon and other friendly countries in OPEC, we would be able to thwart plots of superpowers to weaken OPEC, he told reporters.

Sheykh ol-Eslam is currently touring several African countries.

Bongo Receives Message From CAR's Kolingba

AB310900 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] President Omar Bongo of Gabon received in Libreville a CAR envoy who conveyed to him a message from President Andre Kolingba on Saturday. The message was connected with the possible construction of a Bangui-ocean railroad which will also serve Congo and Cameroon.

BENIN

Libyan Official Received by Kerekou, Comments

AB281440 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Muhamad al-Mabruk, secretary of the Libyan People's General Committee for the Public Service, was received in audience this morning by the head of state. The Libyan official, who is on his second visit to Benin, has come to discuss bilateral cooperation with President Mathieu Kerekou. On leaving the president's office, our reporter Francois Agoussou asked him about the purpose of his visit to Cotonou and the topic of his discussions with the head of state. He first talked about the purpose of his visit to our country.

[Begin recording in Arabic fading into French translation] [Al-Mabruk] This visit is different from all the other visits because it is made at the invitation of His Excellency President Mathieu Kerekou and with the approval of the great leader of our revolution, Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who asked me to convey the greetings of the Arab Libyan people to the brotherly people of Benin and their leader. I arrived this morning to meet with President Kerekou in order to make a general survey of the cooperation between our two countries and exchange views with my Beninese colleagues on international problems now affecting the peoples of the world. We will surely have other opportunities to meet with His Excellency President Mathieu Kerekou during this visit. Generally, the purpose of our present visit is to examine the situation of our mutual cooperation and the possibility of undertaking joint projects.

[Agossou] Your Excellency, could you brief us on the recent development of cooperation between the two countries?

[Al-Mabruk] After our meeting with our Beninese colleagues — our brothers the Beninese ministers — we will have a greater opportunity to talk at length about this cooperation.

[Agossou] The people of Grenada are now confronted with an external aggression. What is your country's position concerning this aggression?

[Al-Mabruk] We in the Jamahiriyah were among the first states to condemn this aggression. The aggression now going on in Grenada is a flagrant violation of all international acts and it seems to introduce a new principle that the big states in the world can land forces in any small country in the world in violation of the laws and pacts of the United Nations. [as heard] We in the Jamahiriyah have (?condemned) this aggression.

In fact, the wise leader of our great revolution has sent a message to all the leaders of the world to draw their attention to the danger this principle will represent if it becomes legal. In any case, an act of violence (?has been committed). This is a threat to all the countries of the Third World. [passage indistinct]

[Agossou] What concrete measures does your country intend to take to assist this aggressed country?

[Al-Mabruk] Actually, we became acquainted with Grenada after Mr Bishop's accession to power. We have relations of friendship and alliance with the free and revolutionary forces in the world struggling against colonialism and imperialism. We have given as much assistance as we can to these friendly countries through the United Nations. [end recording]

PCF Secretary General Marchais Arrives 27 Oct

AB281240 Paris AFP in French 1030 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Cotonou, 28 Oct (AFP) — Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party [PCF], arrived in Cotonou from Brazzaville Thursday night. In a statement made on his arrival, the PCF secretary general, who is visiting many African countries, condemned the American aggression against Grenada. He also denounced the U.S. policy in the Middle East, where, he said, Washington uses Israel to oppose the self-determination of the Palestinian people and unity in Lebanon. The PCF secretary general criticized the NATO decision to install new missiles in Europe, which he feels is a manifestation of American aggressiveness.

GHANA

French Delegation To Discuss Development Aid

AB280835 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] An official delegation from France is due in the country next week for discussions with Ghanaian authorities on the granting of loans and credits toward the implementation of specific development projects in the country. This was announced by the French ambassador to Ghana, Patrick O'Cornesse, during a meeting with the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, at the Castle, Osu. The ambassador expressed optimism about the success of next month's consultative group meeting on Ghana which will be hosted by the World Bank in Paris. He said France will definitely attend the consultative group meeting in view of her commitment to the mobilization of funds to enable the people of Ghana to build a sustainable economy.

Replying, Flight Lt Rawlings observed that the French Government under President Mitterrand offers prospects of hope for Third World countries. He therefore expressed conviction that France will continue to respect the independence and sovereignty of Ghana. For his part, the PNDC coordinating secretary, P.V. Obeng, urged the French to accelerate her assistance to Ghana, particularly in the fields of oil exploration and production and agriculture.

TUC Condemns U.S. 'Invasion' of Grenada

AB282210 Accra Domestic Service in English 2145 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The U.S. Government continues to receive world-wide condemnation for its invasion of the Caribbean island of Grenada. In Ghana, the Trades Union Congress [TUC] has

described it as criminal. At a news conference in Accra today, the acting chairman of the Interim Management Committee of the TUC, Mr A K. Yankey, expressed disgust and horror at the invasion. He said the rapid dispatch of American troops to Grenada following an internal crisis on the pretext of protecting U.S. citizens there is the most cynical and dishonorable course for the United States.

The Pan-African Youth Movement has also called on all nations within the Nonaligned Movement to boycott next year's Olympic Games in the United States because of the invasion. At another news conference, the movement said condemnations and resolutions alone are not enough to discourage the United States from committing acts of aggression against peace-loving and smaller nations.

Papers Denounce U.S. Actions in Grenada
AB310925 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Press Review]

[Excerpts] The *Ghanaian Times* and the *Ghanaian Voice* devote their columns to events in Grenada which led to the assassination of the prime minister, Maurice Bishop, and the subsequent invasion of the island by the United States.

The *Times* dismisses the argument by the Reagan administration to justify its action. It says while the armed invasion of an independent sovereign state on the basis of mere legality is itself highly questionable, the interpretation of the particular legal authority quoted by the State Department does not seem to justify the invasion. The U.S. statement did not also say how the internal political situation in Grenada posed a threat to the security of the region except that the lives of 1,000 Americans resident in Grenada were threatened.

The *Times* again makes it clear that what was happening in the island was an attempt by the Grenadans themselves to decide whatever government they wanted for themselves [as heard], and this process was within their sovereign rights. It was not an attack on the sovereignty of any other member of the Organization of Eastern Carribean States which is a subregional body of the OAS. Morever, the Grenadans did not invite any outside forces to be concerned in the internal process.

The *Times* says when the United States intervened it found the government, the Armed Forces, and the entire people of the island united in opposition. So the Reagan administration cannot say it acted to stop factional strife in order to ensure national stability.

The *Voice* is of the view that whatever differences exist among the political leadership in Grenada, the invasion is morally unjustified since the people themselves are capable of resolving their problems without outside interference. It therefore calls on the United States to pull out its troops and leave the people in peace. It also reminds the islanders of the need for unity among revolutionary forces. The *Voice* says in a situation where members within the same movement are fighting a common course but with strongly opposed views on the approach, it is easy for the enemy to exploit the disunity and gain the upperhand.

LIBERIA

Revised Constitution Documents Formally Presented
AB281930 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The Constitutional Advisory Assembly today presented its revised documents to the head of state in a formal ceremony at the Unity Conference Center in Virginia. The chairman of the assembly, Dr Edward Casterly, said this was a further manifestation of the determination of the People's Redemption Council [PRC] to return the country to civilian rule. He said after days of careful deliberation, they have come up with a document which they felt could serve as a functional constitution for Liberia. This, he said, will protect the fundamental rights of the people and forge greater unity among them.

The head of state thanked the advisory committee for the work they had done and said the document will now go to the PRC for final review. He said in spite of a delay, the PRC was exerting every effort to return the country to civilian rule. He also appealed to Liberians to direct their efforts towards building up a stable government. Many people, the commander in chief said, merely wanted a return to civilian rule but were doing nothing to help the PRC in this regard. This sort of attitude, he said, will not help even a civilian government.

NIGERIA

Shagari Receives Iranian Envoy, Khamene'i Message
LD291404 Tehran IRNA in English 0902 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Lagos, Oct. 29 IRNA — Deputy Foreign Minister in charge of political affairs Hoseyn Shaykh ol-Eslam arrived in Nigeria Friday. He presented a message of President Khamene'i to Nigerian President Alhaji Shehu Shagari. In his meeting with the Nigerian president, also attended by Iranian ambassador there Hojjat ol-Eslam Menhaj, Shaykh ol-Eslam outlining Iran's position concerning the international issues and Iraqi imposed war said "The Islamic Republic supports antiimperialist struggles of the African nations." Shaykh ol-Eslam also announced the desire of the Islamic Republic for further expansion of relations with African countries particularly Nigeria. The Iranian official also supported the just struggles of Namibians and efforts of the front-line countries in eliminating racism, and achievement of independence in Namibia. Shaykh ol-Eslam, during the meeting, also condemned those African countries who established relations with the Zionist regime and dubbed South African and Zionist regimes as cancerous tumors in Africa and the Middle East.

He also outlined recent victories of the Islamic combatants at the war fronts and Saddam's crimes in civil areas in Dezful, Masjid Soleyman, and Behbahan and also that regime's use of chemical bombs against Islamic forces. He concluded by condemning the Socialist Government of France for creating tension in the Per-

sian Gulf and Chad. President Shagari of the Federal Republic of Nigeria praised the Islamic Republic's struggles against Eastern and Western imperialism and its severence of ties with racist regime of South Africa. He emphasized on the necessity of solidarity among the Third World countries in confronting imperialism and big powers. He called for unity and strengthening of ties between the members of the Non-aligned Movement.

Papers Criticize U.S. Invasion of Grenada

AB280948 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Press review]

[Excerpt] Five papers — The *New Nigerian*, the *Nigerian Observer*, the *Nigerian Tribune*, the *Daily Times* and the *Punch* — in their editorials examine the invasion of Grenada by the United States. The papers say the United States' flagrant disregard for territorial integrity, the principle of self-determination and her attempt to dominate the world is a crime against humanity. The *Nigerian Observer* urges that if the United States proves unrepentant it should be expelled from the United Nations Organization. In condemning the (?immoral act), the *Nigerian Tribune* says the United States has no moral right to condemn the 1979 invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union. The *New Nigerian* calls the U.S. action a (?costly) misadventure where several innocent civilians have died and urges her to withdraw her troops.

In its own view, the *Times*, after analyzing the role of the United States in Third World countries, contends that Mr Reagan saw the confusion as an opportunity to achieve his ambition to invade the Caribbean country.

The paper says the invasion shows the tactlessness of the superpowers when they want to achieve any military or ideological objective in Third World countries. Concluding, the *Times* advises Mr Reagan not to create the impression that the powerful countries can pounce on any weak nation any time to impose its will.

And also fuming with anger, the *Punch* calls on Mr Reagan not to throw caution to the winds. It is a message abundantly clear that the United States has no business in dictating who should rule Grenada or the country's political ideology. Finally, the *Punch* advises the United States to get out of Grenada before she is humiliated as in the past.

NLC Condemns 'U.S.-Led Invasion' of Grenada

AB281445 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The Nigeria Labor Congress, NLC, has called for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of foreign troops from Grenada.

In a statement in Lagos, the NLC described the U.S.-led invasion of that country as barbaric and a violation of the territorial integrity of Grenada and the right of the people to self-determination. It condemns in strong terms the killing of defenseless Cuban workers at a construction site and pledged support for the courageous workers.

TOGO

Eyadema Returns From Official Visit to U.S.

AB310720 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The inhabitants of Lome turned out this morning to give a rousing, popular, and warm welcome to General Gnassingbe Eyadema at the airport. The founding-chairman of the Togolese People's Rally was returning from his official trip to the United States that enabled him to make a comprehensive review of major world problems with President Ronald Reagan of the United States and also with Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general.

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara Claims 'Proof' of Countries' 'Hostility'

AB281505 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1310 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Statement by President Thomas Sankara in Ouagadougou on 28 October to the national press on the internal and external political situation — recorded]

[Text] The 4 August Revolution, in restoring to Upper Volta its independence and its freedom and in restoring to its people their dignity, opens the way to the building of a new and just Upper Volta to make it a happy place to live. Thus, the 4 August Revolution represents the hope of our people who support it and are ready to make the necessary sacrifices to defend it. Our revolution currently enjoys the increasing support of all peoples and of all the regimes of Africa and elsewhere who are engaged on the path of progress or are fighting for the revolution.

But even if our revolutionary people can count on many friends, they should never forget that there have always been and there will always be enemies. That is to say, those from whom your democratic and popular revolution gradually but radically eliminates privileges and enormous profits exist from the exploitation, the selling out, and the age-long domination of the Upper Voltan people. These enemies, ever since the first day of our revolution, have been trying to overthrow our popular power. The National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and the revolutionary government have irrefutable proof of the imminent aggression against our young revolution by foreign mercenaries recruited by a handful of revengeful politicians from reactionary Upper Voltan regimes who are greatly aided by their imperialist allies.

The CNR and the revolutionary government once again want to point out that the Upper Voltan revolution is not directed against any country, any state, or any peoples. It is and it will remain the expression of the fierce will of the Upper Voltan people to be masters of their own destiny; that is, to do what the Upper Voltan people themselves want and at the same time, accord other

peoples the same freedom and rights. The CNR and the revolutionary government cannot understand how at a time that Sahelian Africa is threatened by drought and when all the peoples of our subregion are each day confronted by increasingly difficult living conditions, some antinationals and some people without any fatherland in the pay of imperialists are trying to organize an aggression to further aggravate the misery of the Upper Voltan people.

We have in our possession very compromising proof of the active and increasing hostility of some countries against ours whose sole crime was to have engaged in the revolution. But our desire to sincerely contribute to the building of African unity and to maintain the best fraternal relations with all our neighbors of every country has always prevented us from denouncing this hostility. The revolutionary people of Upper Volta, who ever since 4 August 1983 have made their land a free African territory, know and will always know those who are worthy of its legendary hospitality. But they will also know how to mete out to their enemies the appropriate correction to their shady designs of destabilization. The fatherland or death! We will overcome!

Sankara Leaves for Three Niamey Meetings
AB291410 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Captain Thomas Sankara, comrade chairman of the National Council for the Revolution and head of state, left Ouagadougou this morning at about 0730 for Niamey, Niger. In the Niger capital, the comrade chairman will take part in the three meetings of the West African Economic Community, the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement, and the West African Monetary Union. The comrade chairman was seen off on his departure by Comrade Blaise Compaore, minister of state to the presidency, and Comrade Pierre Ouedraogo, national secretary general of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution.

CDR Warns Against 'Suspicious' Meetings
AB291400 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Statement by the National General Secretariat of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution issued in Ouagadougou on 29 October — read by Comrade Lieutenant George Compaore]

[Text] Comrade militants of the democratic and popular revolution, following the statement by Comrade Captain Thomas Sankara, great leader of the Upper Voltan revolution and head of state, the National Secretary General of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] is calling on all patriots to be vigilant and mobilized to bar the way to reaction which is recruiting mercenaries and holding clandestine meetings in darkness in order to bring down the Upper Voltan revolution. Comrade revolutionaries, the National Secretary General of the CDR is calling upon you to assume your responsibilities and to denounce any suspicious meeting and all shady maneuvers aimed at overthrowing the Upper Voltan Revolution. The fatherland or death. We shall overcome.

CDR Chief on People's Vigilance Brigades
AB301250 Paris AFP in French 1206 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 30 Oct (AFP) — Lieutenant Pierre Ouedraogo, national secretary general of the Revolutionary Defense Committees (CDR, created after Captain Thomas Sankara's 4 August 1983 coup d'etat) said in Ouagadougou on Saturday, that all the Upper Voltan provinces would now have People's Vigilance Brigades. Lt Pierre Ouedraogo, who was speaking during a public presentation ceremony of the first unit of this brigade (the 15th) made up of CDR militants, specified that these brigades will ensure the defense of the people, fight against all "imperialist military maneuvers" and will be ready to face at any moment any threat of destabilization. The 15th Brigade of the People's Vigilance Brigades was presented in Ouagadougou during a military parade staged by the National Guard of the Revolution at a closing ceremony of its 2-day meeting. Some units from the National Police Academy and from the civilian CDR also participated in this parade.

Lt Ouedraogo also stressed that for the first time in Ouagadougou, armed women were participating in a military parade. This, he said, was aimed at bringing into practice the call by the National Council of the Revolution (in power since 4 August 1983) to mobilize and liberate the woman.

MAURITIUS

Deputy Premier Comments on Planned Visit to RSA

MB281142 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The deputy prime minister of Mauritius, Sir Gaetan Duval, has rejected criticism of his planned visit to South Africa, where he will hold talks on the purchase of maize and the medical treatment of Mauritians. Addressing parliament in Port Louis, Sir Gaetan said that about 300 people in Mauritius needed special medical treatment which they could not receive in their own country. He said that anyone who opposed the treatment of those desperately ill people in South Africa must be completely insensitive. Sir Gaetan said that during his visit to South Africa he would also discuss the sharp increase in the price of maize which was threatening the small livestock industry in Mauritius. He emphasized that Mauritius had important trade links with South Africa. The date of the Mauritian deputy prime minister's visit to South Africa has not yet been set.

MOZAMBIQUE

Soviet-Donated Rice Unloaded for Drought Victims

MB291330 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The Soviet ship *Aleksandrov* has begun to unload 3,200 tons of rice at the port of Beira. The rice is part of the 10,000 tons of rice donated recently to our country by the USSR to minimize the effects of the drought. The remaining rice will be delivered before the end of November to the ports of Nacala and Maputo. Meanwhile, another Soviet ship is expected in Beira soon with 700 tons of frozen fish for Sofala Province.

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister Rejects UN Resolution on Namibia

LD292156 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs and of information, Mr Roelof Botha, has commented on a Security Council warning to South Africa to stop trying to link independence for South-West Africa/Namibia to a Cuban withdrawal from Angola. Mr Botha says the United States has consistently supported this viewpoint and he is to approach the United States Government through diplomatic channels as soon as possible to find out why the United States representative in the Security Council adopted such a wavering attitude. He said South Africa also rejected the insinuation in the Security Council resolution that South Africa was responsible for the instability that was prevalent in most of its neighboring countries.

The foreign minister said the Security Council knew very well that the cause of the instability in neighboring states was because of the inability of the governments of those countries to create stable socioeconomic conditions and their inability to ensure the economic development of their peoples. It was also a fact that some of those countries harbored terrorists who openly boasted about committing acts of terror and undermining in South Africa. He said South Africa was determined to take action against those terrorists in these countries even if it meant that South Africa clashed with the rest of the world. South Africa had no intention of yielding to the Security Council and its threats. The Security Council did not have to wait until 31 December to find out what the response of South Africa would be. The Security Council said it would wait until 31 December before imposing sanctions on South Africa. Mr Botha said he had given the South African representative at the United Nations instructions to inform the Security Council or secretary general immediately of the South African response.

Mr Botha also responded to the killing of two South African anglers on the Chobe River in Botswana yesterday. He said he was filled with revulsion at the tragic circumstance in which South Africans were killed by apparently uncontrollable elements in Botswana. The two South Africans were fishing when they were shot dead. A third member of the group jumped out of the boat and swam to safety. Mr Botha said he would be contacting the Government of Botswana immediately about the cowardly deed. He said the South African Government would not tolerate such acts against its citizens.

Prime Minister Comments on Minorities, Referendum

MB290800 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, says South Africa is a country of realities with group relations and minority problems that cannot be solved unless the Westminster system of government is changed and that is why the government would be going to the people in a referendum on 2 November to decide in a democratic way on the future of the country. Mr Botha said the realities of South Africa could not be changed. It was a country of minorities with strife, terrorists, clashes, and conflict and that was why the government of the country has to think ahead, because just one mistake could plunge the country into chaos. But the dilemma facing South Africa was to bring together the freedom and the self-determination of all the minorities in the country to form a decent government. Mr Botha, who was speaking at a meeting in Bloemfontein, said that through the centuries freedom and self-determination had been the driving force that had to be reckoned with because it was the driving force towards freedom and self-determination that led people to action.

Police Identify Bomb Suspect as ANC Member

MB281341 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The head of the security police, General Frans Steenkamp, has said in Pretoria that the police had information that the man arrested in possession of a bomb in Pietermaritzburg is a member of the banned ANC and had been on his way to the city hall where the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, addressed a public meeting. The man had been acting under the instructions of the ANC.

Gen Steenkamp said the man had been arrested in Commerical Road by a member of the police at 2045 after he had been seen carrying a parcel. It had been found that the parcel contained an armed demolition mine of Soviet origin. The mine had been connected to an electrical time mechanism.

Gen Steenkamp said two explosives experts of the security police have disarmed the mine. Gen Steenkamp praised the two explosives experts who had risked their lives to disarm the mine. He said the incident, like the bomb explosion in Pretoria, was again proof of the casual disregard of the ANC for life and limb. In follow-up operations, the security police and the South African police had found three ammunition dumps in the vicinity of Pietermaritzburg at which they had more demolition mines.

ANC Denial

MB300718 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] The African National Congress has denied it was behind this week's alleged assassination attempt on the prime minister. In a statement from Lusaka, the ANC says in its words: We have reason to believe that so-called assassination attempts are stage-managed to wake up feelings of sympathy among whites to support a yes vote on Wednesday's referendum. Yesterday another ANC statement called for whites to vote no in the constitutional referendum. The statement said a no vote would be a rejection of apartheid and a show of solidarity with voteless blacks.

ANC Statement Urges No Vote on New Constitution

MB300610 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The ANC has called on South African whites to vote no in the referendum on 2 November. In a telex to Capital Radio the ANC has advised white South Africans that a no vote to the government's constitutional proposals would be a rejection of apartheid and an act of solidarity with the disenfranchised black majority. The statement says in its words: By voting no the white electorate will be joining the overwhelming majority of our people, black and white, to rejecting the division of the country and its people. The statement also calls on Indian and Colored communities not to let themselves be co-opted by the government's proposed new system.

ANC Secretary General Issues Statement on Grenada

EA281311 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 27 Oct 83

[ANC program]

[Text] (?Listeners) [words indistinct] a statement issued by the secretary general of the ANC, Comrade Alfred Nzo, denouncing the invasion of Grenada by heavily-armed U.S. troops. The statement reads as follows:

The ANC condemns most vehemently the barbaric U.S. invasion of the island of Grenada, a sovereign, independent country, a member of the Commonwealth, the Nonaligned Movement, and the UN. This naked (?and unopposed) unprovoked aggression against an independent country is a criminal act of banditry and a gross violation of the basic norms of international law. By this act the Reagan administration has once again exposed the American imperialist role of acting as international gendarme against peace and progressive forces. This same administration has sent its invading troops to Grenada. It is the same U.S. regime that continues to openly support the ruthless oppressive apartheid regime of South Africa and the paramilitary junta in Chile. It is propping up the terrorist military regime in El Salvador and is threatening the security and independence of the sovereign country of Nicaragua. The ANC joins the rest of the international community in demanding the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of U.S. invading forces from Grenada.

ANC Supports Andropov Views on Euromissiles

AB301030 Luanda ANGOP in French 1145 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Luanda, 29 Oct (ANGOP) — The ANC of South Africa and all the progressive forces of the African Continent share and support the views on the prevailing situation in Europe presented by Yuriy Andropov, the CPSU secretary general and chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the ANC representative in Luanda, Urian Mokeba, has stated. According to Mokeba, following the adventurous policy of the Reagan government, the situation on the European Continent has taken an extremely dangerous turn because Washington is using all in its power to impose the installation of Pershings and medium-range missiles on European soil, thereby making the people of this continent hostages to the aggressive NATO pact, he stressed. In this particularly difficult situation, he added, the Soviet leader is showing clearly and publicly the correct channels through which agreements can be reached that may lead to the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe.

SWAZILAND

Reportage on 28 October General Elections

SWAZI NEWS: 'Massive' Turnout

MB290840 Mbabane The Swazi News in English 29 Oct 83 pp 1, 20

[Excerpt] There was a massive turn-out in polling stations in the country's major population centres. And reports from outlying districts indicate that the turn-out was comparatively high even in thinly populated villages. In the major centres, like Mbabane and Manzini the turn-out was higher than that for the 1978 general elections. In Mbabane, pamphlets calling for a boycott of the elections were ignored and the out-come was a blow for dissidents who wanted to take the opportunity to provoke popular disobedience. A total of 10,556 people voted in Mbabane and others arrived late. Reports of the out-come, with names of the winning candidates, were still coming in Parliament House at the time of going to press.

Announcement on Bhekimpi Expected

MB290910 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 29 Oct 83 p 2

[By Norman Chandler]

[Text] Mbabane — Swaziland was tense but calm yesterday as thousands stayed away from the polls in the country's fourth general election since independence. And an announcement is expected that Prince Bhekimpi is to be replaced as Prime Minister.

The man who may take over the reigns is Prince Dumisa, who is recognised as a radical politician. There is only one other known candidate for Prime Minister and that is Prince Mfanasibili, a member of the Liqoqo, but it is believed he is not too interested in the position.

Estimates put the illegal stay-away vote at as much as 40 percent of the 600,000 electorate and in the rural areas the figure may have been even higher. No official statistic will be available for a few days. The 80 candidates, elected yesterday to the electoral college from which a new parliament is to be chosen, are in closed session today, choosing the country's new legislators. They are not expected to complete their task until after the weekend and then the Queen Regent, Queen Ntombi, will name the Prime Minister and Cabinet to run one of Africa's only remaining monarchies.

Yesterday there were again clear signs of government edginess over the election for which a public holiday had been declared and a royal command given that everyone had to vote. Those who defied the command face criminal action.

Mbabane and other main centres were ringed by roadblocks manned by the army and the police for the third successive day. Travellers from Natal reported seven roadblocks on the Sir Seretse Khama highway between Manzini and the border.

The home of *Rand Daily Mail* correspondent Simon Ngwenya was twice visited by Security Police on Thursday night and yesterday, but no action has so far been taken against him. Police said they had no comment to make on the harassment which followed immediately after I was questioned for nearly two hours on Thursday for alleged criticism of the government in the *Rand Daily Mail*. Police detained Mr Ngwenya earlier this year and also detained the editor of *The Times of Swaziland*, Mr James Dlamini, after he had predicted that an election would in fact be held. Yesterday's editions of the *Rand Daily Mail* and other South African newspapers were not on sale in Swaziland and it could be not ascertained whether the government had prevented their circulation.

At the polls there were thousands who came to choose their candidates for the electoral college, but the turnout disappointed observers. The largest vote was in Mbabane and Manzini. Electoral officers in the rural areas appeared puzzled by the poll figures in country constituencies, despite chiefs having been warned it was illegal for people to stay away. Despite the turn out, however, government officials yesterday pronounced the election a success.

New Cabinet To Be Announced

MB290850 Mbabane The Swazi Observer in English 29 Oct 83 pp 1,11

[Text] Members of the Supreme Council of State (Liqoqo) are not eligible to be voted into parliament or to become Cabinet Ministers, it was disclosed yesterday. Speaking in an exclusive interview with *The Observer* yesterday at the Lobamba polling station, Liqoqo standing committee member, Dr George Msibi, said there will be no member of the Liqoqo who will sit in the Cabinet. This means that Liqoqo member, Mr Kuseni Hlophe, who is Minister of Agriculture, will not be eligible to re-election into parliament.

Dr Msibi also disclosed that the present Cabinet is now a caretaker government until the next 10 days when a new cabinet is announced. Dr Msibi added that after the elections, there will be a civil servant reshuffle which will affect all top civil servants. "It is normal practice that after the elections, there is a reshuffle of top civil servants," he said, adding that this was to ensure that civil servants were made familiar with other aspects of government administration.

Dr Msibi also said already there were some changes of officials in the government. He did not elaborate. He also confirmed that Mr Douglas Lukhele and Mr Arthur Khoza who were being held under the 60 days detention order at the Matsapha Prison had their detention renewed for another 60 days. He said the decision to renew the detentions was approved by the Prime Minister consultation with the Cabinet and the Liqoqo. "When the Prime Minister met with his Cabinet and had consultations with the Liqoqo, it was seen fit that the detention order for the two men be renewed," Dr Msibi said. Dr Msibi, however, said the detainees will be released as soon as the authorities no longer considered them to be a security risk to the State.

Dr Msibi was happy at the big turnout of voters and said it showed that people were happy with the elections. He said he had visited several polling stations and was impressed by the turnout. He predicted that the turnout in this year's elections would be more than 70 percent. He dismissed allegation that voters were being intimidated and forced to vote. "How is it possible to intimidate anybody to vote because there is as you can see, no voting register, so nobody can be accused of not having voted," he said.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Condemns U.S. Military Action in Grenada

MB281920 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] President Kaunda said in Lusaka today that no country had the right to invade the Caribbean island of Grenada, a sovereign state, even after the assassination of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop by people whom he called bad. Speaking at State House when he met foreign journalists who are in the country to monitor the presidential and general elections, Dr Kaunda said Zambia greatly regretted both the assassination and the invasion. He called on countries involved in the invasion to heed the voice

of reason and withdraw from the island immediately and leave the people of Grenada to solve their own problems. The president, who met foreign journalists, local journalists, and the head of the Zambian mass media, said he was completely shocked when he learned of the assassination of Prime Minister Bishop. Dr Kaunda, who was asked to give Zambia's stand on the issue, said: Just as the government had already said, Zambia strongly condemned the assassination.

Meanwhile, the president said the solution of the South African problem will depend on how prepared the minority white leaders there are to talk to the detained black nationalists about the future of the country. The president, who clearly explained the South African situation to the foreign journalists, the country's endeavour to give power to the people through democratic elections, and its stand on certain issues, said only the West could help the situation. He added that independent Africa was as concerned about the situation as South Africa itself, although South Africa's concern was a bit different. South Africa's concern, he said, was out of fear of invasion by African states, but Dr Kaunda (?hastened) to point out that no African state was contemplating invading South Africa.

Presidential, Parliamentary Polling Results

MB291114 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] President Kaunda today continues to score a high percentage of yes votes in most of the polling stations so far counted. In Donezo constituency, President Kaunda received 9,331 yes votes against 78 no votes and 76 spoiled papers out of 9,533 viewed. In Somamande constituency, President Kaunda polled 6,270 yes votes, 203 no votes, and 86 spoiled votes out of 6,559 votes. In Choma, J. Kaunda polled 11,928 yes votes, 928 no votes, and had 303 spoiled votes out of 13,196 votes. Meanwhile, three new members of parliament have been elected for Kantanki and Montiula constituencies, while [word indistinct] for Kakoyo Jack Kopolo retained his seat. Mr Edgar (?Zethimumba) has won the (?Mufulira) parliamentary seat, while son of (?Sanyo Zedias), director the late Alex Nkata, David Nkata, scooped the Kantanki seat formerly held by McDonald Mtine, who did not get reelected. (?Zethimumba) polled 2,766 votes to beat 9 others to win the (?Mufulira) constituency, while Mr Nkata polled 5,383 to win his seat.

In Chinsali (?Bonzest Singa) beat eight others to become a new member of parliament for the Eia. He scored 2,487 against 1,528 of his nearest rival Mr Philucia Kakolo. Ndola Refinery personnel manager Mr Clever Mkuka is a new member of parliament for Bwengamocuba after beating other rivals in the parliamentary elections. He polled 4,435 votes against his nearest rival (?Michael Tenende) who polled 2,699. The former member of parliament for Singola, (?Gany Kapanula) has sucessfully retained his parliamentary seat after beating six opponents. The Choma parliamentary election saw Daniel Munkomwe being retained by a good majority. Mr Munkomwe polled 11,613 while his opponent, (?Kamyandi Yonziambui, polled 4,868.

In the Luena constituency, (?Nyandien Tendango) beat his three opponents with a big margin to land himself a seat in parliament. He received 2,992 votes against 1,418 for his nearest rival Leonard (?Nowaliangai). In Mazabuka constituency, President Kaunda scored 17,062 yes votes against 1,219 no votes; 690 votes were rejected. In the same constituency, former member of parliament Simon Mambo has given way to Hamane Taterson who polled 2,727 votes. Mr Mambo received 1,286 votes. In Mandevu constituencies, the incumbent Mr Dingiswayo Banda, who polled 9,982, has been defeated by (?Eick Bricuki) who received 16,921 votes [word indistinct]. (?Judas Banda) had 2,643 votes in (?Canfony). President Kaunda received 8,685 yes votes against 196 no votes; 259 were rejected. Parliamentary results are yet to be out.

In Lundelwi constituency, James Sirongo has retained his parliamentary seat when he beat eight other contestants. Second to Mr Sirongo is Mr (?Christian Ntongo) who received 2,962 votes. Presidential results were 17,604 yes votes against 210 no votes and 63 spoiled papers. In Waitcha constituency, the president received 19,210 yes votes against 871 no votes and 564 votes were rejected. Total cast: 20,642. In the same constituency former member for the area Richard Banda has retained his seat after beating Herbert Mulunka. Mr Banda polled 13,305, while his only rival received 6,058. In Lezongwe, President Kaunda received 7,616 yes votes against 141 no votes. Total votes cast were 8,174.

State Minister Loses Seat

MB281933 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] In the presidential-parliamentary election results, which started pouring in this morning, the minister of state for works and supplies, Edward Muwonga, has lost his parliamentary seat to Mr Peter Chileshe, who is making a comeback in the Mwasabombo constituency. Mr Muwonga only managed to get 315 votes, while Mr Chileshe got 3162 votes. President Kaunda received 5620 yes votes and 207 no votes for the presidential elections of Mwasabombo constituency.

Kaunda To Be Sworn In

MB281946 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] President Kaunda is to be sworn in for his fifth term as Zambia's national polling results are declared at 1500 on Sunday. [passage indistinct] The director of elections, Mr (Tobias Mbewe), has said that all election results should be received in Lusaka by Sunday morning.